

Manifesto theme is liberty

Tories pledge laws to curb trade unions and councils

The Conservative manifesto, published yesterday, proposes curbs on union rights to call strikes without secret ballots and the abolition of the GLC and English metropolitan county councils.

Mr Michael Foot said the document contained "just more of the same, shameful, disastrous policies". Union leaders reacted angrily to the proposal for secret ballots.

Mr Roy Jenkins and Dr David Owen, of the SDP, said the manifesto offered the prospect of three to four million unemployed for the rest of the decade.

Labour leaders agreed that collective pay bargaining would be planned under their proposed national economic assessment, which would determine growth in public spending, employment and incomes.

Mrs Thatcher told 400 prospective candidates not to be defensive about the Government's unemployment record. Her message was to be "cool, calm and elected" (Page 4).

Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, gave a warning against Soviet exploitation of the British general election and short cuts to disarmament (Page 4).

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Further changes in trade union law, in local government and in the state industries are prominent in the proposals for a fresh term of office which the Conservative Party yesterday offered the electorate.

The Employment Acts of 1980 and 1982, which limited trade union immunities, changing the laws governing picketing and the closed shop, would be replaced by a new Conservative administration to be followed by a third. In the words of the Conservative manifesto, the new laws would give union members the right to hold ballots for the election of governing bodies of trade unions, and the right periodically to decide whether their unions should have party political funds.

It would also "curb the legal immunity of unions to call strikes without the prior approval of those concerned through a fair and secret ballot".

The English metropolitan county councils and the Greater London Council, created in the 1960s and 1970s by Conservative administrations, are to be abolished as "wasteful and unnecessary". They happen to be Labour controlled.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, introducing the manifesto, said the councils had "developed bureaucracies far in excess of their functions". Bureaucracy was waste and "just not tolerable".

In the wake of the local government legislation of 1980 and 1982, there is to be a third attempt to limit local authorities' expenditure, extending to England and Wales powers which central government already has in Scotland, to put a ceiling on rate increases.

Reform of the nationalized industries, the manifesto says, is central to economic recovery, the gas and electricity industries. The Conservatives will examine how to decentralize British Rail and bring in private enterprise, and they will "seek to make rail freight more competitive".

The manifesto claims that the Government has "laid the foundations for a dynamic and prosperous future", and that the rewards of four years of Conservative rule are beginning to appear.

Its legislative proposals are few, its claims for the Government's record bold. The language is moderate but not modest. The unemployed are paying a price for past errors (for which trade unions are blamed) "through no fault of their own". But the Government "has an impressive record in helping the unemployed".

There is a vein of ripe abuse of the Conservatives' opponents. Labour is accused of "vicious" resistance to council



Mrs Thatcher at the launching of the Tory manifesto yesterday (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

house sales of "hypocrites" over the cost of social benefits; of being "reckless and naive" in gambling with Britain's defences; above all, of "cruel deceit" in claiming they could abolish unemployment by printing or borrowing money.

The Conservative approach is described as "straightforward and resolute. We mean what we say, and we stick to our purpose".

Mrs Thatcher, in her foreword, identifies three challenges.

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Syrians refuse to meet Habib

From Robert Fisk, Damascus

Syria closed the door still further yesterday on any dialogue over foreign troop withdrawals from Lebanon by announcing that Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special Middle East negotiator, would not be welcome in Damascus during his latest visit to the Middle East.

MR Habib flew to Beirut yesterday in the evident hope that he could mediate between the Lebanese government and President Assad over Syria's rejection of the withdrawal agreement signed by Israel and Lebanon on Tuesday.

In personal attack on the American diplomat, the Syrian news agency Sana said that "it has been decided not to receive United States emissary Philip Habib in Syria because we have nothing to discuss with him, and especially because he is one of the most hostile American officials to the Arabs and their causes".

President Assad is said to have expressed his own personal reservations about Mr Habib, and apparently tried to communicate this to Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, during the latter's visit here two weeks ago.

In Beirut, Lebanese Foreign Ministry officials were still expressing the hope that some form of negotiation might soon begin between the Lebanese and Syrian authorities. President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon has said that contact may soon be made between the two sides, despite Syria's public rejection of the Israeli-Lebanese accord.

But in Damascus, where the press has now dubbed the agreement "Camp Shultz" - a cynical reference to the Camp David treaty between Egypt and

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Burglar escapes with £1½m art treasures

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A lone burglar yesterday made off with works of art worth £300,000, part of the world-famous Rothschild collection, after breaking into Waddesdon Manor, the National Trust estate near Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire.

The burglar scaled the outside of the nineteenth century country house, climbed into a drawing room and rifled display cabinets before escaping with 25 snuff boxes, figurines and rings. He triggered alarms but police and security staff were too late to catch him as he fled across the estate's 150 acres of parkland.

Thames Valley police began a hunt for what they believe was a thoroughly professional burglar who had planned his operation carefully although there was some bewilderment in the art world about what will happen to the haul.

The stolen works are part of a collection which is well known within the art world. The burglar would have difficulty selling them.

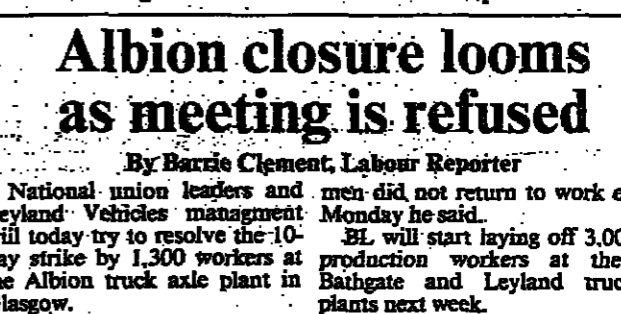
Last night staff at Waddesdon Manor, left to the National Trust in 1957, were still working with the police to draw up a final list of what has been stolen. One National Trust spokesman said yesterday that several items were considered to be "irreplaceable".

They include one of a pair of horsemen modelled in ivory, ebony and enamelled gold which are attributed to Halthazar Permoser, a seventeenth century German sculptor. A number of gold boxes are also missing.

These include one showing a round portrait of an unknown lady believed to have been made by a French goldsmith in 1767 or 1768. Another is a rectangular box depicting the journey of Marie-Joseph of Savoy to Turin for her marriage to the Comte de Provence in 1771. A third depicts a scene from the journey by Marie-Antonette to marry Louis XVI.

They disappeared from the Tower Drawing Room in the ground floor of the house where they were housed in two display cabinets. The room also included a pair of

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Waddesdon Manor, showing the Tower from which a burglar stole art works valued at £1.5m.

Club fined for hygiene offences

By Robert Fisk, Damascus

Brook's, the exclusive St James's club, was fined a total of £700 with costs yesterday after a court heard the kitchen contained "hundreds of thousands" of mice droppings and cockroach remains.

The club, with membership fees of more than £250 a year, was found guilty at Bow Street Magistrates' Court of contravening food hygiene and safety regulations.

But magistrate Mr Ronald Bartle said he was surprised at the way Westminster City Council had prosecuted the club.

"There seems to have been a very sharp change of policy", he said.

"Cases involving premises which enjoy public prestige should not be prosecuted just to show an example".

He said the club had put right many faults found by a health inspector and normally that would satisfy a council's complaints, but he admitted there was no reason for the club to be treated differently from any ordinary restaurant.

Environment health officer Mr Alexander Parker-Brown visited the club last July 6.

He told the court that the main kitchen was heavily infested with mice. There was grease and dirt on the walls and the kitchen utensils.

But club secretary Mr Gordon Irving said there was bound

to be some mess because at the time of the inspection it was very busy.

The court heard that since the visit between £30,000 and £40,000 had been spent on structural work to the club in accordance with the council's request.

The club admitted breaching four out of 30 food hygiene regulations and two out of four health and safety regulations. A further five food hygiene offences were found proved.

The case is part of an increasingly successful campaign by Westminster council to crack down on food hygiene abuses in the West End of London, Rupert Morris writes.

Mr Robert Crozier, the council's principle environmental officer, insisted there was no victimization of the big names and no over-zealousness by his staff.

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Leading article, page 13

Outcry at Tory proposals from Labour and Alliance

By A Staff Reporter

Hostile reaction to the Conservative Manifesto came last night from the leaders of the other political parties, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the trade union movement.

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party said it contained "just more of the same, shameful, disastrous policies we have had over the last four years".

Speaking on the Jimmy Young Show on BBC Radio he said: "What it really means is more of the same or even worse. That is what she proposes for the British people and I believe they are too wise to accept it."

On a tour of his constituency of Blaenau Gwent, which embraces the old Ebbw Vale, Mr Foot said: "Given the state of the economy in this country and considering the appalling figures for those on the poverty line, it is a manifesto of miserable complacency."

Mr Roy Jenkins and Dr David Owen, leaders of the Social Democratic Party, said the manifesto offered a continuation of misery and the prospect of three to four million unemployed for the rest of the decade.

Speaking in Leicester Mr Jenkins said: "Mrs Thatcher creates despair and calls it a principle. She does not even wring her hands over the unemployed, for whom she will do nothing."

Mrs Shirley Williams, the SDP president, said in Formby, Merseyside, that "the lie at the heart of the Conservative manifesto" was that the Government's monetarist policies had made Britain a stronger, more competitive country and must be continued.

For the unemployed and school-leavers without hope of a job this was like telling a drowning man how to sink faster, she said.

The TUC Employment Committee said in a statement: "The Conservative Manifesto does not contain a single shred of serious thinking about industrial relations. All it offers is another round of union-bashing masquerading as a substitute for industrial relations policy."

Sir Jack Smart, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said Conservative proposals to abolish metropolitan councils and the Greater London Council would inflict wounds from which local democracy would never recover.

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Tomorrow

David Butler makes sense of the opinion polls while Frank Johnson continues on the campaign trail, observing Denis Healey in Peterborough and Cambridge. Liza with a "zee": "I'm not Sally Bowles," says Liza Minnelli, who won an Oscar for her portrayal of that fascinating lady in the hugely successful film Cabaret. This week she opened a new season in London, where she once went to school for a few weeks - but then she went to school everywhere for a few weeks, thanks to the peregrinations of her mother, Judy Garland. Liza Minnelli talks frankly to Duncan Fallowell on the Spectrum page tomorrow.

On the Friday Page, Penny Perick looks at the plight of the appalling number of children in Britain who are subjected to the terrors and humiliations of incest. The sports pages ask: Can Britain's golf hope, Nick Faldo, become the first player for a quarter of a century to win three successive major tournaments? Faldo faces Severiano Ballesteros in the Car Care Plan international at Sand Moor, John Hennessy reports.

An eight-page Special Report on Saudi Arabia investigates whether the Arab paymaster really holds the key to peace in the Middle East.

Pay deals lift living standards

Living standards have increased for those in work, with earnings rising by 7.5 per cent in the year to March against inflation of 4.6 per cent. Figures out tomorrow are expected to show inflation at 4 per cent or less for the year to April. Page 17

£2m gift

The National Hospital for Nervous Diseases in London is to receive £2m from the sons of the Ruler of Dubai for its attempts to save their mother, Shaikha Latifa Al Maktoum, who died yesterday.

Sudan mutiny

The Sudanese Army has crushed a mutiny among troops in the south of the country. It said the unrest was caused by foreign contacts. Page 7

Hailsham anger



Lord Hailsham, of St Marylebone, who accused the media of hounding judges. He said political pressures of governments were also threatening the independence of the judiciary. Page 3

'Dirty war' fear

The deaths of two men in an Argentine highway shoot-out last Saturday have revived fears that "dirty war" violence of the 1970s is returning. Page 6

Hever's fast £1m

More than £1m was raised on the first day of the two-day sale of the Hever Castle estate at Edenbridge, Kent.

Brighton choice

Jimmy Melia, the Brighton manager, has chosen Howlett in preference to Ryan in midfield of the FA Cup final against Manchester United. Page 22

Leader page, 13

Letters on Lebanon reporting, from Rabbi David Goldberg, quitting EEC, from Mr Cosmo Russell; parish records, from Mr H. Pesket.

Leading articles: Conservative manifesto; Moslem divorcees. Features, pages 10 and 12

Which party has the greater spending power? How the Seveso disaster could rebound on Britain; Barbara Castle on Mrs Thatcher's campaign style. Spectrum: Love thy neighbour... if you can.

Books, page 11

Anthony Quinton reviews the Singer brothers; Andrew Sinclair on fiction; Fiona MacCarthy on names; Peter Jones on translation; Paul Barker on Presidents; John Russell Taylor on Hitchcock.

Obituary, page 14

Sir Roger Fulford, Rt Hon Sir Gordon Willmer.

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'More disasters' warning Penlee report condemned

By Craig Seton

Opinion was divided and reaction was angry yesterday over the findings of the 29-day public inquiry into the Penlee lifeboat disaster. Condemned as "spineless and virtually useless" by a solicitor representing the families of two dead lifeboatmen, it was welcomed as thorough and fair by the coastguard service and the Royal Naval Lifeboat Institution.

The report cleared two coastguard officers of blame for the tragedy in which 16 people died, but said the lifeboat, Solomon Browne, should have been launched earlier. It said others might have acted differently from Mr Robbie Roberts, the coastguard's district controller at Falmouth, but said his actions fell well short of a wrongful act or default.

It also cleared of blame the master and crew of the coaster, Union Star, and accepted that they had taken reasonable steps to save themselves as they drifted helplessly towards the Cornish cliffs in a violent storm on December 19, 1981.

Mr Noel Horner, a solicitor representing the families of Kevin Smith and Gary Wallis, at 22 the youngest members of the Solomon Brown crew, said: "The inquiry has shown that the coastguard service needs radical reorganization and lots more money spent on it. Without that, we will get more Penlees."

Mr Horner, who at the end of the first day of the inquiry had said that it sounded like a "whitewash", refused to use the word again yesterday, but said: "It has been a waste of time, and in a way it makes me wonder why we came."

Mrs Pat Smith, mother of Kevin Smith, expressed disap-

pointment at the report. She insisted that, if the rescue had been coordinated from Land's End, the lifeboat would have been launched earlier and would have succeeded in taking off those on the Union Star.

Lieutenant Commander Tim Fetherston-Dilke, the chief coastguard, said he was pleased that allegations against his men had been shown to be unsubstantiated.

However, Lieutenant Commander John Douglas, a former chief inspector of coastguard who had expressed alarm at the service's reorganization and the rundown of Gwenyraf Head, said nothing he had heard in the report changed his view that its findings on coastguard reorganization were a whitewash.

"There are too many questions left unanswered."

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Leading article, page 13

Albion closure looms as meeting is refused

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

National union leaders and men did not return to work on Monday, as the BL said.

BL will start laying off 3,000 production workers at their Bathgate and Leyland truck plants next week.

The prospect of a permanent closure of the factory loomed larger yesterday after shop stewards refused to call a meeting of strikers as demanded by the company.

Sixty union leaders at the plant, mostly members of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said they would not call one until the company was prepared to have "meaningful" talks about compulsory redundancies.

In a letter to strikers on Tuesday, Mr Ronald Hancock, chairman of Leyland Vehicles, said the factory was less than 200 volunteers short of the 146 needed. It would be closed if the

● The six-week sit-in by 400 workers at Timex's Milton plant in Dundee, ended yesterday (Our Dundee Correspondent writes). The company agreed to take back its demand for 190 compulsory redundancies and reinstate 200 people dismissed during the dispute.

Work will resume today, but the dispute has delayed the launch of Sinclair Research's miniature television by six weeks, losing an estimated £6m in sales. Timex makes the two-inch flat screen.

Sinclair said yesterday the television would cost £60.

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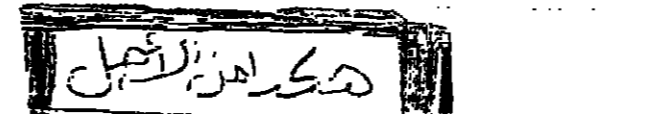
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Press challenges ban in court hearing of supergrass case

By David Nicholson-Lord

Supergrasses should not have a "passport to privilege for life" because of the need to protect their identity in court proceedings, the Divisional Court was told yesterday. That would lead to a "creeping usurpation" of open justice.

Mr Desmond Browne, for the *Surrey Mirror* newspaper, was opening a case in which the newspaper, supported by the Newspaper Society, is challenging the decision by Reigate magistrates last November to ban the press and public from part of a case involving Mr Norman Crawford, a former police informer.

The newspaper is seeking a quashing of the action, or a declaration that the magistrates acted wrongly. Counsel representing Mr Crawford, Surrey police and the solicitor for the prosecution from the magistrates' court hearing, argue that taking the 25-minute plea in mitigation in private was necessary to protect Mr Crawford's identity.

Mr Crawford, who pleaded guilty to three charges of criminal damage, one of theft and one of burglary, was given a six-month suspended sentence which Mr Browne described as extremely lenient. The failure of the bench to give reasons led to widespread criticism.

Mr Crawford was sentenced

to five years' imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court in 1979 on six charges of robbery, three of burglary and one of carrying a firearm. Mr Browne told the court yesterday. Another 84 offences were taken into consideration.

He served 21 months in prison before being released under the royal prerogative. He was then given a new identity and "vanished". He then appeared later before Reigate magistrates.

After the Reigate case, Mr Crawford was interviewed by the *Daily Mirror* and *Sunday Express*. He also appeared on *Panorama* on BBC 1, but Mr Jonathan Haworth, representing Mr Crawford, said in spite of his disappearance and the new life forged for him at great public cost, an attempt had since been made to kill him.

Mr Haworth conceded that there was no hearing in camera at the Central Criminal Court at the police or of his link with the 1979 case would endanger him.

The Reigate magistrates imposed the suspended sentence after hearing how Mr Crawford's mental health had been affected by the cover he had to maintain and also because of the prospect of a further spell in solitary confinement, to avoid beatings by his fellow inmates, if he was sent to prison.

Mr Haworth said a full mitigation would have been seen impossible if the hearing had been public and this would have been manifestly unjust. But he was not proposing private hearings for all supergrasses.

Lord Justice Ackner, presiding, asked: "Why should not supergrasses be expected to take a risk if they go on committing offences?" He said Mr Crawford had been dealt with leniently at the Central Criminal Court, but went on offending.

Mr Browne commented: "If supergrasses are a necessary evil in our society, their privileges should be confined to the essential hearings at which they are giving evidence. They should not have a passport to privilege for life."

Mr Peter Irvin, appearing for the chief constable of Surrey and the prosecuting solicitor at the Reigate magistrates hearing, was asked by Lord Justice Ackner whether the prosecution did not have a duty to see the case presented openly. Mr Irvin said it had given Mr Crawford assurances of confidentiality.

Judgment was reserved until today.

One of the premature babies (above) and their mother, Mrs Diane Collins (right) with her husband, Brian.

Twins in rescue flight

Doctors were trying yesterday to save twin baby boys who had been flown 2,500 miles from Gibraltar after being born three months premature.

Their mother, Mrs Diane Collins, aged 20, is married to a driver with the 1st Battalion, Duke of Wellington's Regiment. One of the boys weighed 2lb and the other 2½lb.

Doctors decided their only chance for survival was to be taken to a specialist maternity hospital in Britain as quickly as possible. A mission was mounted involving the Army, Navy and RAF.

The children were suffering from respiratory troubles; the main concern was to keep them warm.

At Heathrow airport a police escort was waiting by the runway. The children were taken in incubators in separate ambulances to the Louise Margaret Maternity Hospital in Aldershot, Hampshire.

Mrs Collins said at the hospital: "Doctors in Gibraltar at first said there was no hope for my babies. I was heartbroken but then they said the only possibility was to get them back to England. I was just praying all the way that we would make it. Now that we are here I think there is a good chance for them."



One of the premature babies (above) and their mother, Mrs Diane Collins (right) with her husband, Brian.

Change in divorce law urged

Reform of divorce proceedings, in which warring spouses would have to attempt a "round the table" reconciliation first, were urged at the annual meeting of the Justices' Clerks' Society at Torquay yesterday.

Mr Ian McKittrick, president of the society of chief legal advisers to magistrates in England and Wales, said the law should be "strengthened so that all attempts at reconciliation had been exhausted before matrimonial proceedings could be started."

The proposals would cost little, he said. "But whatever the cost in the terms of resources it must be worthwhile looking at from a purely mercenary viewpoint, if no more than one marriage in a hundred was saved, the effort would be vastly profitable."

The procedure would not reverse the divorce figures, running at nearly 150,000 a year at a cost of some £1,000m, but even if reconciliation failed, there was something to be saved from the wreck in the shape of the chance to resolve disputes out of court, he said.

All matrimonial proceedings, divorce, should be started in the magistrates' court, he said.

Magistrates' courts must continue to provide spouses with a quick and easily obtainable remedy for the immediate difficulty, but any order made should be only interim.

Each party would have to consult a family adviser appointed by the court within 28 days to examine the possibilities of reconciliation.

PC jailed for attack on driver

A policeman was jailed for six months yesterday for launching a vicious attack on a stranded motorist.

Mr Justice Neill, sitting at Birmingham Crown Court, told Police Constable David Smallwood: "I recognize that this case is a personal tragedy for you and your family. I accept that what you did was out of character, but as a police officer you are, or were, a guardian of the law."

PC Smallwood, aged 21, formerly at police lodgings in Brendon Road, Sturley, Birmingham, admitted assaulting Mr David Campbell causing him actual bodily harm. His colleague, PC Timothy Edwards, aged 22, of Romilly Close, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham, denied the assault and was found not guilty after a three-day trial.

Mr David Jones, for the prosecution, alleged that Mr Campbell, aged 23, of Fairfax Road, West Heath, Birmingham, went through a nightmare ordeal when his car broke down in Selly Park, Birmingham.

PC Smallwood saw Mr Campbell and decided to have some "drunken fun". He leapt from the car he was driving and chased Mr Campbell for 300 yards. He then kicked and punched him and tried to ram his head against a concrete pillar. Mr Jones alleged that PC Edwards, the passenger in the car, also took part in the attack.

But PC Edwards told the court he had drunk 16 pints of beer and was asleep in the car.

PC Smallwood, a policeman's son, has resigned from the force.

Science report

Hopes for cleansing of anthrax island

By the Staff of Nature

Ministry of Defence scientists have completed preliminary steps towards the decontamination of Gruinard, a small Scottish island used for testing the potential of anthrax as a biological weapon in the Second World War.

From tests of a variety of possible disinfectants on Gruinard scientists have established that a dilute solution of formaldehyde is an effective and relatively cheap agent which so kill spores of the anthrax bacteria.

Six different disinfectant solutions were tested on the island in 1962 by Dr R. J. Manichee and his colleagues from the Ministry's Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton Down together with Dr W. Walling of the Public Health Laboratory Service's centre for applied microbiological research.

The solution were applied to the surface of small patches of ground a few metres north of the gully from which small bombs containing spores of anthrax bacteria were detonated in the trials. The area is the most heavily contaminated, probably because of the time of detonation.

A count of the anthrax spores in soil samples 10 days after disinfectant applications showed that five of the six disinfectant solutions killed most of the spores.

The best among them was a five per cent solution of formaldehyde in sea water; it left no living spores in the soil sample taken from an area that contained 70 spores in an equivalent sample before the disinfectant was applied.

This solution has been chosen for larger trials planned for later this year. Their outcome may determine whether an attempt is made to disinfect the whole of the contaminated area of Gruinard which extends to at least two hectares and would require the application of at least 10 million litres of disinfectant.

It would be difficult to guarantee complete decontamination of the island and Dr Manichee and his colleagues say that careful consideration would have to be given to the ecological effects of any disinfectant treatment.

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Royal Navy publicity is censured

The Royal Navy has failed to produce direct evidence to substantiate statements in a recruitment advertisement attributed to the Soviet Navy commander-in-chief.

The Advertising Standards Authority upheld a complaint against the Royal Navy over its two-page advertisement in *The Sunday Times* colour magazine last November.

Although it has not yet been officially announced, the authority said yesterday: "I can confirm that the complaint against the Royal Navy has been upheld."

The advertisement contained a purported statement by Admiral Sergei Goshkov, superimposed on his portrait.

The authority said: "The Navy were not able to prove that Goshkov said it, so we have upheld the complaint. The complaint was made by Dr Nicholas Humphrey, an anti-nuclear campaigner."

Fears over private funds to universities

The universities' increasing dependence on private funds is a cause for concern because outsiders, as a result, can buy influence in the academic world, according to a report published today by the Centre for Contemporary Studies.

Citing the case of Exeter University, in Devon, the centre says 10 students from Qatar were promised sought-after places on the university's engineering course. More recently a Centre for Arab Gulf Studies was set up at Exeter.

After that £750,000 was given by the ruler of Dubai to build a new university library, a conference was organized by the Centre for Arab Gulf Studies on the "State Economy and Power in Saudi Arabia". A member of the Saudi royal family attended the conference but several Israeli academics were excluded.

The report, *Undue Influence, Pressure on the Universities*, comments that as government cuts bite deeper, Exeter's academic interests in the Middle East expand. Last year it was announced that an MA degree in Middle East affairs was to be established in the department of politics.

Mr Peter Bradley, the author of the report, and the centre's senior research officer, says:

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Gloomy report on unemployed delayed

The Manpower Services Commission has deferred publication of its politically embarrassing five-year corporate plan which predicts "persistently high" unemployment, gives a warning to the Government that long-term jobless totals are set to rise to 1,250,000, a 25 per cent increase.

A draft of the tentative but gloomy policy document was leaked yesterday, in a clear move to influence the course of the election campaign.

Union leaders who sit on the commission are appalled by the long-term prospect for unemployment revealed by the plan paralyzing job prospects until the end of 1987.

The document, which has been approved by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, sets out plans for annual spending of £2,000m rising to £2,400m in 1985-86 to keep more than 600,000 people off the unemployment register.

The paper says: "The general picture for the years immediately ahead is unclear. There is likely to be some revival of output from a very a very low base, but this may not be enough to absorb productivity growth. Some small increase in employment may occur, but this would be matched by growth in labour supply.

"Unemployment is expected to remain high, however, there is still a considerable amount of change occurring within the economy which is likely to increase in momentum during the planning period."

Looking at labour market implications, the commission's plan adds: "The number of long-term unemployed [those claiming unemployment benefit continuously for 12 months or more] is already about one million, and in the absence of any policy response, would be likely to rise to 1,250,000.

"Some groups will continue to suffer disproportionately from unemployment and there could be particular difficulties for new entrants to the labour market, notably school-leavers and married women."

The TUC employment committee yesterday noted that the corporate plan was gloomy about the prospects for the long-term unemployed, and disclosed government expectations that the number of long-term unemployed will not fall below the present high level. The committee said that the MSC's present services should be expanded.

EEC farm deal price increases

The price of a joint of beef will increase by about 10p as a result of the EEC farm price bargaining which ended this week. A packet of bacon rashers may go up by 4p and a kilogram packet of sugar may increase by about 1½p later in the year.

The increase of about 1½p a 250 g packet of butter will be largely absorbed by an increase of almost 1p in the subsidy. Cheese will cost about 2p a pound more and the price of a standard loaf will increase by about 1p.

Exclusion order on seaman revoked

Francis McGleave, a merchant seaman banned from entering Britain, had his exclusion order revoked by the Home Secretary Mr William Whitelaw, yesterday. Magistrates at Corby Northamptonshire, were told that it would not be in the public interest to proceed with the case.

Mr McGleave, aged 25, had been in custody for seven days, accused of failing to comply with an exclusion order under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. After he had been freed he refused to discuss the case.

Mr Paul Sefton, for the prosecution, told the court that papers on the case had been studied by the Attorney General, the Director of Public Prosecutions and Mr Whitelaw.

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PC Smallwood saw Mr Campbell and decided to have some "drunken fun"

PC Smallwood saw Mr Campbell and decided to have some "drunken fun". He leapt from the car he was driving and chased Mr Campbell for 300 yards. He then kicked and punched him and tried to ram his head against a concrete pillar. Mr Jones alleged that PC Edwards, the passenger in the car, also took part in the attack.

But PC Edwards told the court he had drunk 16 pints of beer and was asleep in the car.

PC Smallwood, a policeman's son, has resigned from the force.

Youth scheme 'leaked'

The Government's new training initiative, under which up to 460,000 school-leavers are to be offered one-year Youth Training Scheme places from September, and paid £25 a week, created to reduce unemployment figures and to depress training wage levels, according to documents leaked to London weekly magazine.

Time Out said today that it had obtained several confidential documents said to have been drafted by the Central Policy Review Staff, the Cabinet Office "Think Tank".

One of the papers, *Report on Youth Unemployment*, circulated in February 1981, said: "The prospects for young school-leavers are bleak. By the end of 1983 between 30 and 70 per cent of the labour force under 18 might never have had a proper job.

Since then the Government has announced its Youth Training Scheme, expected to cost £900m this financial year, which "seeks to build upon the experience of the Youth Opportunities Programme and training schemes run by employers, to provide young people with a bridge between school and work through broad-based, foundation training in a range of basic skills, knowledge, and experience, which will enable them to adapt to changing circumstances and opportunities."

But the *Time Out* document presented a different picture. It said: "The essence of the proposal is to reduce the size of the labour force by raising to 17 the age of entry to the normal labour market.

"We estimate that the training year would reduce the level of registered unemployment by about 200,000."

Doubts on dead nurse pictures

A pathologist said yesterday he doubted that new pictures of Helen Smith, the nurse who died in Saudi Arabia four years ago, would add anything to the evidence given at her inquest.

The pictures, taken by Saudi police just after Miss Smith's death, are being circulated to medical experts by West Yorkshire County Council, which is pressing for a new inquiry into the case.

Professor Allan Usher, who examined Miss Smith's body, when it was returned to Britain, said yesterday: "I have not yet received the pictures from the council but I have seen them reproduced in the newspapers and I cannot see how they can add anything to what we already know.

"There is no guarantee that the position in which Helen's body is shown on the pictures is the same as the position in which she was found.

"I will study the pictures more closely when I receive copies of them and if I see anything to change my mind, I will be in touch with the county council leader, John Gunnell."

Mr Philip Gill, the city's coroner, who released the pictures to lawyers acting for Miss Smith's father, Mr Ronald Smith, said that he did not add to the inquest evidence.

Mr Ronald Gregory, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police, has also said that they do not justify further police inquiries.

Mr Smith, a former policeman, and Mr Gunnell, have said the pictures prove that Miss Smith could not have fallen to her death from a sixth-floor balcony as the inquest jury stated.

The pictures show Miss Smith lying at the foot of a block of flats in Jiddah.

Twin in second marrow transfer

Mr Robert Greenfield, of Derwent Terrace, Sherwood, Nottingham, has taken part in a second bone marrow transplant to save his twin brother.

The first operation took place three years ago after it was discovered that Mr John Greenfield, aged 25, had leukaemia. He recovered but in January this year tests confirmed that the disease had resurfaced. The second operation, which lasted five hours was described as successful.

Kidnap wife's husband sent for trial

Henry Kirkpatrick, whose wife had been abducted by the Irish National Liberation Army in an attempt to stop him becoming an informer, appeared in court in Belfast yesterday to face a preliminary inquiry on 36 terrorist charges. He was committed for trial.

Mr Kirkpatrick, aged 25, was flanked in the dock by three prison officers. Extra police were in the building for his appearance.

No reference was made to the abduction a week ago of his wife, Elizabeth, aged 24, from her parents' home in Ballymurphy, west Belfast, but as he was led from the dock his mother shouted from the public gallery. She said: "Dear, love you son. What are they trying to do to my son?"

She was led from the court in tears. Outside she said she believed it was true that police wanted her son to turn informer. Mr Kirkpatrick, from the Divis Flats complex in west Belfast, faced charges including attempted murder, conspiracy to murder, possession of a firearm and armed robbery.

He has been sent for trial on 40 charges, including the murder of three Ulster Defence Regiment members, a policeman and a leading member of the Ulster Defence Association.

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Opren 'victims' start US legal proceedings

Several hundred alleged victims of the anti-drug drug Opren are to take legal action for compensation against Eli Lilly, the American manufacturer.

The Opren Action Committee, which is coordinating claims in Britain where the drug has allegedly caused about 70 deaths, said yesterday that it has instructed lawyers to start proceedings for damages in the American courts.

The decision comes after a denial by the drug company that Opren, or Benoxaprofen, is in any way responsible for deaths or alleged side effects, and a refusal to compensate those claiming to be victims without making them prove negligence.

The committee said that through its lawyers it had "acted" patiently and with "impegnity". It added: "A number of requests to the drug company to establish a 'no fault' compensation scheme have met with no helpful response."

Three firms of American lawyers have been retained in Washington, New York, and Indiana, and information has been collected and sent, the committee said. The lawyers will select the first cases they wish to file from several hundred already evaluated.


The committee is urging anyone who has taken the drug, which was withdrawn from the market last year, and who suspects side effects, to get in touch with it. "We suspect that there may be many people who have developed unusual medical conditions while under treatment with this drug."

The action committee is coordinating claims through a network of about 50 lawyers in Britain acting for more than 400 alleged victims, aged between 25 and 95.

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(STD code 0903)

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CHARITY COMMISSION

Charles - The Royal British Legion - Ulster House on Fitzroy Street, Liverpool, Merseyside, England. *Grading and Proofing.*

The Charity Commission's process of grading and proofing is a statutory requirement of the Charities Act 1963. Copies of the grading and proofing forms may be obtained from the Charity Commission, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0AL. Tel: 01-275 5100. Objections and suggestions may be sent to them within one month from today.

مكتبة من لاصول

London Transport aims to win passengers with new Travelcards

By Michael Bailey
Transport Editor

London will take a step towards the Continental approach to public transport next Sunday when London Transport introduces Travelcards, giving free access to the Underground and buses after a lump sum payment.

The sum of £480 will buy a year's unlimited travel on buses and Tubes throughout Greater London, and £4 will buy a week's unlimited travel in the central area.

The shift from buying individual tickets is expected to generate big savings for London Transport through increased travel, fewer staff and reduced fraud.

It will make public transport more like the private car, and as many Continental cities have shown, with cheap period passes, will encourage people to use buses and trains instead of cars for journeys they feel they have already paid for. Other cards will be available for monthly and quarterly travel on any combination of four zones. More than 300,000 are expected to be sold by the summer.

A new drive against fraud is also being launched, Dr Keith

Bright, the chairman of London Transport, announced yesterday to try to reduce the £40m a year which fares avoidance is believed to cost London Transport.

For the first time passengers paying at the exit barrier will automatically be given a receipt for the money many suspect has been hitherto pocketed.

Nearly one hundred extra

booking clerks are being recruited to ensure ticket offices are always manned and additional bus and Tube inspectors are being trained.

The Travelcard is part of a package of cheap fares negotiated through the Goats this year after last year's Fares Fair debacle. Many fares will be reduced by a quarter and some, particularly on long Underground journeys, by a half.

The 40p fare for central area Underground journeys will cover twice the area (both the existing City and West End zones). The 40p bus fare will be reduced to 30p, but the 20p fare stays the same.

The cheaper fares and Travelcards (the latter are available from newspapers as well as London Transport outlets) are expected to generate an extra £5 million bus and 35 million Tube journeys. Last year journeys dropped by 5 per cent after fares doubled in March.

Dr Bright, disclosing a break-even result after £250m grants from the Greater London Council, said at a London press conference that the emphasis would be on higher productivity, lower costs and improved services.

Smoking poll

Most Underground travellers think London Transport should give up the idea of completely banning smoking on the Tube, according to an opinion poll published yesterday (the Press Association reports).

The survey, conducted by MORI for the pro-smoking group, Forest, shows that 54 per cent of 721 travellers questioned were against the plan, never under consideration.

Only 18 per cent said there should be a total ban, while 46 per cent of non-smokers thought trains should include smoking compartments.

The results have been sent to London Transport.

24-hour guard on orchids

By Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

Rare wild orchids are to be guarded day and night by naturalists to prevent a repetition of last year's thefts. The plants include some of the most handsome and bizarre of British wild plants.

Patrols will start soon as the next two months cover the flowering periods of most Britain's 50 wild orchid varieties. The plants grow in a complex relationship with fungus in the soil and seldom survive replanting.

The orchids are all relatives of the much larger and more familiar imported hot-house varieties. Some of their names refer to the strange shapes adopted by their flowers. The lizard orchid with its long dangling flowers has almost vanished from its haunts in eastern England and some wild specimens were dug up and removed last year.

Mr Richard Steele, the director-general of the Nature Conservancy Council, said: "Round-the-clock patrols are necessary to thwart those who think only of their own pleasure and profit." The council, a garage which admits wildlife law, and the Essex Fairbairn Trust have said the £4,000 needed to finance the patrols.

Belgrano attacker tells of fireball

By a Staff Reporter

Commander Christopher Wreford-Brown, captain of the Conqueror which sank the General Belgrano, later regretted the loss of life but would not hesitate to launch such an attack again if he had to, according to a book on the Falklands conflict published today.

The commander describes the sinking of the Argentine warship in *Our Falklands War*, written by Geoffrey Underwood and based on first-hand accounts of the task force. The Belgrano was sunk with the loss of more than 300 lives on May 2 last year.

The commander was at the periscope of his submarine as two torpedoes hit the cruiser. He said: "I saw one hit midship. I saw a fireball. I saw a cloud of dirty smoke as the second torpedo hit."

The crew of the submarine cheered at the sound of the explosion and the Conqueror moved away at speed to avoid any depth charge attacks from the cruiser's destroyer escorts. The ships searched the area where the submarine had been for a short time.

Commander Wreford-Brown said: "Afterwards I had a certain amount of regret about the loss of life. I did not know the numbers involved, but one presumed it was considerable.

We had countered the threat the General Belgrano offered to our task force and the loss of life they could have caused."

"Now I feel we did just what we were invited to do and I would have no hesitation in doing it again."

"It is a fact of life that if you want to go to war you must expect losses", the commander said.

Describing the run-up to the attack he said the Conqueror had located the Belgrano on May 1 and followed her for more than 30 hours, reporting to London that she had been found. The submarine remained several miles to the stern of the cruiser, deep below her.

The instructions from London were to attack if the ship went inside the total exclusion zone but on May 2 the rules for engagement were changed.

Commander Wreford-Brown said: "She was 20 to 30 miles outside the zone and in everyone's eyes posed a threat to the task group."

The submarine increased speed approaching the cruiser on the port side. It fired a salvo of three torpedoes at 1,400 yards.

Our Falklands War, by Geoffrey Underwood (Maritime Books, £3.95).

Penlee disaster findings

Coastguard officers cleared

By Craig Seton

Two coastguard officers accused of doing "too little too late" to avert the Penlee lifeboat disaster have been cleared of blame in the report of the public inquiry into the loss of the lifeboat Solomon Browne and the coaster Union Star.

The 20,000 word report, published yesterday, also rejects allegations that Captain Henry Mick Morton, master of the Union Star, and his crew failed to take reasonable steps to save themselves as the 1,400-tonne oaster drifted helplessly towards Cornish cliffs during a storm in December 1981.

The report of the 29-day inquiry says, however, that with the benefit of hindsight it was plain the Solomon Browne should have been launched earlier. It concludes that others "might have acted differently" from Mr Robbie Roberts, the coastguard district controller at Falmouth, but says that his action fell well short of any wrongful act or default.

The report states that a case had not been made out to associate the disaster, which cost 16 lives, with coastguard reorganization, particularly the removal of operational rescue control from the local station at Land's End to the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre at Plymouth, 25 miles away, and which covered a larger area.

The report recommended joint talks to improve liaison between coastguards and the Royal Naval Lifeboat Institution, especially better phraseology for alerting a lifeboat. It suggested that the Department of Trade should give the

TIMETABLE OF TRAGEDY

- 1804 - Union Star calls Coastguard for first time.
- 1812 - Salvage tug first calls Union Star offering help.
- 1813 - Penlee lifeboat put on standby.
- 1817 - Salvage tug sails.
- 1900 - Direct talks between tug owners and Union Star owners. Tow contract agreed.
- 1918 - Coastguard upgrades message calling ships to assist Union Star.
- 1937 - Rescue helicopter airborne.
- 1950 - Penlee lifeboat requested to launch.
- 1954 - Helicopter in contact with Union Star.
- 2005 - Helicopter attempting to reach survivors.
- 2012 - Penlee lifeboat launched.
- 2044 - Salvage tug on scene - cannot get towline to Union Star.
- 2100 - Union Star 300 yards from cliffs and dragging anchor.
- 2105 - Helicopter and lifeboat both trying to take off survivors.
- 2122 - Lifeboat rescues it has got four survivors. Union Star already in breakers... she capsizes.

coastguard a reserve power which could enable its officers to send help such as a salvage tug to the aid of an unwilling master of a ship in trouble.

The inquiry heard more than a million words of evidence about the tragedy in which eight Cornish lifeboatmen and eight people on board the coaster, including a woman and her two teenage daughters, died.

The report accepted that the Solomon Browne, having rescued four people, was probably crushed to pieces as it went alongside the Union Star again and the coaster capsized on top of it in huge breakers below the cliffs close to Land's End.

Much of the evidence concerned allegations against Mr Roberts, aged 54, who took charge of the rescue operation half an hour after the coaster reported engine failure at 6.04 pm and Mr Colin Sturman, aged 31, the senior watch officer for the earlier period.

They had been accused of failing to appreciate the urgency of the situation, failing to initiate a Mayday after the failure of the master of the Union Star to send out a distress message and failing to ask for the early launch of the Penlee lifeboat.

The report, compiled by Mr Richard Stone, QC, wreck commissioner and chairman of the inquiry, and three assessors, said those allegations had been

correctly withdrawn. "The evidence did not support a finding that either officer had acted with any lack of reasonable care or in breach of his duty."

Of Mr Sturman it said he had alerted a rescue helicopter and the lifeboat, put the Union Star in touch with a salvage tug nearby and ensured that radar plots were taken at Gwennap Head, the Lands End coastguard station.

He seems to have asked the right questions at the right time and treated the situation with the degree of urgency appropriate to the information he received. He was a credit to the coastguard service.

Turning to Mr Roberts, the report said: "He applied his judgment to the situation and though others in his position might have acted differently his actions were not careless or without reason and fall well short of any wrongful act or default." But there were restraints placed on him by coastguard regulations.

Of Trevelyan Richards, the coxswain of the Solomon Browne, and his crew of seven the report said: "Their selfless endeavours to save those from the Union Star is an episode in the nation's maritime history which will never be forgotten."

It was important that masters knew that reluctance to declare a distress could lead to delay and jeopardize a successful rescue. It was a primary duty of a ship's master to declare distress and the land station could do so only in exceptional cases.

Leading article, page 13



Mr Stone yesterday. Call for liaison



Mr Sturman: "Credit to coastguard"

Society, violence and the judiciary

Judge 'hounded to grave by media'

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The independence of the judiciary was threatened by political pressures of government and "hounded" by the media, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone said last night.

He said he knew of a High Court judge who "would be alive today had he not been subjected to a torrent of abuse excited by the media against a decision" altered on appeal but endorsed in principle.

"I am not the only one who holds the belief that this sensitive man was, almost literally, hounded by the media to his grave", he said.

Lord Hailsham added that although he could not prove it, he knew of "two members of the higher judiciary whose career prospects were substantially delayed by reason of directly political considerations."

The Lord Chancellor, giving the third in the 1983 Hamlyn series of lectures in London, also issued a warning about the use of judges by governments to head public inquiries, charged with political sensitivity and where the inquisitorial method was alien to judges' experience.

After instancing Lord Scarman's inquiry into the Brecken riots Lord Hailsham said judges were not to be blamed for accepting commissions to head such inquiries, but the media, public opinion, politicians and lord chancellors, including himself, were "possibly to be criticized for asking judges to perform tasks for which their training does not render them particularly suitable" and which potentially interferes with their ordinary work and adds a political flavour to their reputation.

Return to Victorian morality urged

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A plea for return to Victorian morality with its social sanctions to combat crime and violence was made by Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, yesterday.

"No one gives a fig for the Ten Commandments any more, but unhappily society disregards them at its peril," he told the annual meeting of the National Association of Prison Visitors in London.

At the risk of being labelled fuddy-duddy he said, people must begin by stopping the display of violence and sex on television and the importation of hard-core pornography which benefited no one but the purveyors.

Figures for armed robbery were likely soon to go down because those involved would find far more profit in the importation of heroin, which in turn would mean more crime, he said.

"We must start trying to get back a little way towards what your critics call Victorian morality. If we don't, it will go on getting worse."

Lord Lane said people tended to wash their hands of responsibility in the tackling of crime, leaving it to judges, probation staff and the prison service and the old social sanctions had disappeared.

The sanction of parental authority had gone, discipline



Lord Lane: 'Ban pornography'

in schools had gone and the authority of the schoolmaster was undermined. Financial sanctions had also gone and, while not wishing a return to pre-welfare state days, Lord Lane said there was no doubt any potential criminal would then think a long time before consigning his wife and children to the workhouse.

The big cities also meant social sanctions had disappeared. People did not know their neighbours and even if they did, it was a matter of total indifference whether or not he was convicted of a crime.

The establishment was urged by Judge Argyle, QC, at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to take a positive stand against football hooliganism.

The judge, who is a keen sportsman, made his remarks as he jailed three young football fans and sent another to a detention centre for their part in a soccer rampage in which a man died.

There had been "an appalling atmosphere of violence and terror - with foul language,

'Stand up to soccer thugs'

excess alcohol and urinating in public", he said.

He made an order under the Contempt of Court Act forbidding the naming of the defendants and the match involved, or giving its date because forthcoming trials of rival supporters and a retrial of another fan might be prejudiced.

The judge later told the press that the victim, Mr John Dickinson, aged 24, of Wyvel Road, Vauxhall, south London, could be named.

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Geoffrey Smith



COMMENT

The Conservative task in this campaign is not to win votes; it is to make sure that they do not lose those they have already got. That consideration has clearly governed the writing of the manifesto. It has been sired by safety-first, out of resolution.

The most likely way for the Conservatives now to lose votes would be by frightening the electorate. "Look what Thatcher would do if she got a second term", is the cry that the opposition parties would love to set up. But to do so at all convincingly they would have to be able to point to fresh policies of an alarming nature that the Government would introduce in the next Parliament if it is given the chance. What might they be?

A shudder of horror is not likely to pass through the country at the thought of losing the Greater London Council or any other metropolitan county. Indeed, the proposal to abolish the GLC may have the beneficial side effect for the Conservatives of bringing Mr Kenneth Livingstone into the centre of the political debate in the London area, where there are a high proportion of critical seats. Anything that approached a referendum on Mr Livingstone and his works would be good news for the Tories.

Union restraints already indicated

Further restraints would be imposed upon the trade unions. But these would be along the lines already indicated in the Green Paper. In any case, this kind of action is popular enough so long as it does not seem to threaten industrial chaos. A campaign of sympathy for the trade unions would not be the most promising road to political success in Britain at the moment.

The manifesto commits the Conservatives to return more industry to the private sector. But that would simply be continuing an existing trend. What is much more significant is that there is no mention of privatizing the social services, apart from an innocuous reference to "putting services like laundry, catering and hospital cleaning out to competitive tender".

Last summer Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr Leon Brittan and other ministers were suggesting that private provision and individual choice might supplement, or in some cases replace, the role of government health, education and social security. But nothing of that appears in the manifesto.

A whisper of school cherters or student loans. In health there is a promise "to promote closer partnership between the state and the private sectors". That would be rather more convincing if the Conservatives produced more constructive ideas on a subject, but the idea is not likely to frighten away any tentative voters so long as there is no threat to the NHS at all.

Two further tests to be passed

The press conference launching the document yesterday Mrs Thatcher even went so far as to confirm that the manifesto does commit the party to providing full protection against inflation for state retirement pensions and other long-term social security benefits; a commitment she gave in 1979 and later retracted.

So the manifesto should achieve its primary purpose of voiding unnecessary offence. But there are two further tests that it needs to pass. Does it say enough to give the impression of a government with an agenda to justify a second term? The programme of trade union reform and further privatization of industry should not be regarded as insubstantial just because they are continuing a trend. On economic policy it is clear that Mrs Thatcher would continue in a second term to pursue a radically different course from any other party.

But does this manifesto give full and fair indication of what Conservative government would do over the next few years? Here there must be substantial doubt. It is not so much that Treasury ministers were warning their colleagues of the horrendous levels that taxation would reach over the years ahead if the present public spending trends were maintained. Yet this manifesto holds out the hope of lower taxes without making it clear where the spending cuts would be found.

Union leaders react with rage to Tory plan to check political funds

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Trade Union leaders reacted with howls of rage yesterday to the Conservative manifesto provisions that would compel them to introduce secret ballots by law and curtail their political activities.

The TUC's employment policy and organization committee had an early view of the Tory programme for a second term of office and rejected it out of hand.

Mr William Keys, general secretary of SOGAT '82 and chairman of the committee, said: "This is an outright attack on the Labour Party. Because they cannot destroy us electorally, they want to destroy us financially."

The contents of the manifesto were widely expected, with the exception of the provision for periodic tests of rank-and-file opinion about the continuation of trade union political funds, which if implemented might reduce substantially the number of unions affiliated to Labour.

But Union leaders still responded bitterly to Conservative proposals for new "rights" for trade union members to choose their leaders by secret ballot, to vote before striking and to decide whether to pay the political levy.

The TUC's employment committee said in a statement that the manifesto only offered "another round of union-bashing, masquerading as a substitute for industrial relations policy."

"There is nothing wrong with secret ballots. Many unions already use them extensively. Nobody who knows the first thing about industrial relations would seriously argue however that they are applicable to every union and industrial situation."

The committee added: "The democratic systems which unions have developed - postal ballots, voting at work, voting at union branches - must all, by Mrs Thatcher's decree be reduced to one system."

Mr Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of

Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, insisted that the unions were "the last repository of the democratic traditions of this country" and were now being threatened in a way that companies who could make political donations were not.

Conservative proposals to abolish metropolitan councils and the Greater London Council and give their functions to borough and district councils brought an angry reaction from Sir Jack Smart, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities (Mark Mitchell writes).

Sir Jack said that such action would inflict wounds from which local democracy would never recover.

"It would be a thoroughly irresponsible act of politically motivated vandalism to destroy these democratically accountable authorities without first ensuring that something better was ready to put in their place", he said.

His view was echoed by Labour groups who control the six metropolitan councils and the GLC. Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the GLC, said: "Londoners will lose the right to elect the people who manage vital country-wide services and the right to sack the people responsible every four years if they want to."

Mr Alan Greengross, for the



Sir Jack Smart: "Blow to local democracy".

Conservative opposition on the GLC, welcomed the proposal, which he said were overdue. "The financial excesses of the current GLC administration has made it inevitable".

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, yesterday condemned the manifesto as "just more of the same, shameful, disastrous policies we have had over the last four years" (Anthony Bevins writes).

Speaking on the BBC radio's *Jimmy Young Show*, he said: "What it really means is more of the same, or even worse. That is what she prophesies for the British people, and I believe that they are too wise to accept it."

While saying that the position would not be easy under a Labour government, Mr Foot pledged that there would be no increase in taxation for the first two years of a Labour Government.

Speaking in his Ebbw Vale constituency last night he said that the Conservative manifesto was "miserably complacent" and appeared to have no appreciation of the economic problems facing the country.

Mr Roy Jenkins and Dr David Owen, leaders of the Social Democratic Party, launched a savage assault against the Conservative manifesto yesterday, claiming that it offered a continuation of misery and the prospect of three to four million unemployed for the rest of the decade (Philip Webster writes).

Mr Jenkins, speaking in Leicester, said the Tories offered no hope. There would be no end to the squeeze, the economy would hump along the bottom.

In Plymouth Dr Owen said that Britain in 1983 would not accept a continuing rise in unemployment. The weakness in the manifesto was that Conservatives were "ready to borrow £8,000 million a year but stubbornly refuse to borrow just a little bit more in order to lift the burden of unemployment, lost output and lower living standards".

Ulster party seeks devolution

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Official Unionist Party in Northern Ireland will demand devolved majority rule government at Stormont as the main condition for supporting a minority administration in any "hung" parliament.

At almost the same time as Mr James Molyneux, the party leader, was announcing that yesterday the Conservative manifesto appeared, saying there would be no devolution without "widespread support throughout the community".

That promise ends any hope that a new Thatcher administration would be prepared to return control to a Unionist majority.

The Official Unionist manifesto, entitled *The Only Way*, describes the four years of Mrs Thatcher's government as wasted. It continues to promote the "conspiracy theory" pro-

ounded by Mr Enoch Powell and Mr Molyneux, claiming that the Foreign Office, the Northern Ireland Office, the Irish Republic and the United States have tried many devices to force or trick the people of Ulster into an all-Ireland state.

Mr Molyneux, flanked by Mr Powell and Mr Harold McCusker, said the last four years had been frittered away by aborted initiatives. His party would work to amend legislation that set up the assembly and would never accept devolution if it meant power sharing with nationalists or an "Irish dimension".

Demanding an end to direct rule Mr Molyneux said the OUP could not accept that Ulster should be governed for any longer on a 12-month lease because that did not help create stability.

The manifesto also urges withdrawal from the EEC. Mr Powell, MP for Down South, indicated that he would advise the electorate in Britain to vote Labour, as he had in 1974, because of that party's policy of withdrawal.

Mr Powell, who could face a struggle to remain an MP if the unionist vote in his constituency is split by the entry of a Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) candidate, dismissed talk of failure. "I am a survivor", he said.

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the DUP, wants an arrangement in six marginal constituencies so that his party and the OUP each field candidates in three only. Such is the rapprochement between the parties that a deal is proving difficult, although it is likely one will be made before nominations close.



Allied attack: Mr Steel (left) and Mr Rodgers attacking Tory and Labour policies yesterday. (Photograph: John Manning)

Alliance defends jobs promise

By Our Political Staff

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader speaking for the Liberal/SDP Alliance at yesterday's London press conference, was unshaken by the claims made by the independent Henley Centre for Forecasting that the Alliance programme would not produce the results promised in the joint manifesto.

The economic forecasting organization had suggested that the Alliance plan would not produce one million new jobs in two years. It was more likely to be about 400,000. (The centre also criticized the Labour programme, saying it would fail to produce the desired target and would put inflation back into double figures).

Mr Steel said: "I saw the Henley forecast and I do not accept it. Our programme is not one cobbled together in a rush for this election. It was produced as a result of a joint commission of our two parties many months ago and at that time we had it carefully put through both the Treasury and the Cambridge models.

"Their findings were very

different from the Henley figures... Using the Treasury model it showed that under our proposals we would have unemployment down by one million over the first two years of the new Parliament holds firm."

Mr Steel insisted there was nothing inevitable about unemployment; it was man-made, not God-given. "It is ridiculous for Conservative leaders to flap their hands in a pathetic display of helplessness", he said.

Mr Steel conceded that some unemployment was due to world economic conditions, but there was plenty that could be done about that. "Alas, both Mr Reagan and Mrs Thatcher have so far turned their backs on all such concerted efforts to get world economic expansion."

At least half of British unemployment was home-made. And here we were fully masters of our own fate.

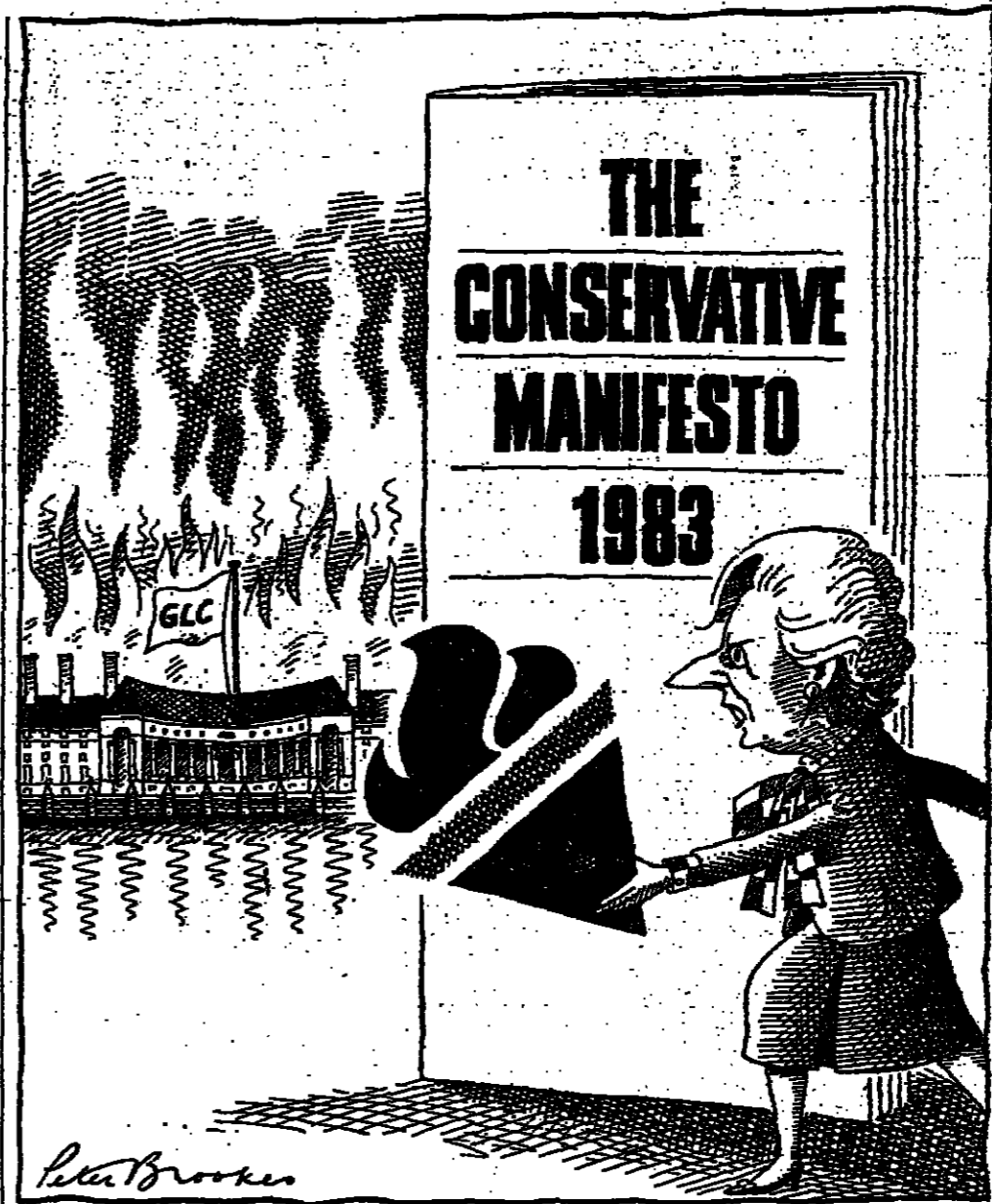
"Unfortunately, there is a

carefully orchestrated mood of defeatism about the whole business", Mr Steel commented. "The Government tells us that full employment and stable prices cannot be had together; that it is one or the other."

The latest production figures show just how weak are the Government's claims of an upturn. We are clearly stuck on "or around the bottom."

Mr William Rodgers, sharing the platform with Mr Steel, made an attack on the trade unions. He said: "The incestuous relationship between the unions and Labour Party is corrupting to the trade unions and has been disastrous for Britain."

He added: "We intend to break the link between the unions and the Labour Party, first by substituting 'contracting in' for 'contracting out', and second, by requiring trade unions to hold secret ballots of all their members at reasonable intervals to decide whether or not they wish their trade union to be affiliated to the Labour Party."



The Great Fire of London

Foot on solid home ground

Mr Michael Foot went to Ebbw Vale yesterday to hand in his nomination papers for the constituency secure in the knowledge that he now has the safest Labour seat in Britain as a result of boundary changes.

His 17,000 majority at the last election will increase substantially this time and could outstrip the highest majority of 21,000 achieved in the constituency by his predecessor and inspiration Aneurin Bevan.

Mr Foot yesterday made a pilgrimage to the Bevan Memorial on Wam-y-Penn, a hill overlooking the town of Ebbw Vale, Tredegar and Rhymney which together made up the old constituency. The redrawn boundaries now take in three quarters of Aberthaw

which has the highest Labour vote per head in Britain.

The memorial, known as the Bevan Stones, is marked by three large pieces of limestone representing the three towns in the constituency which sit on the spot where Bevan used to address open air political meetings attracting up to 7,000 people. It was traditional in the area on the eve of elections on May Day for the people from the towns to climb the hill to listen to the Welsh orator.

Mr Foot said he was confident that Bevan would have approved of the campaign that he is running in 1983 particularly in his defence of the National Health Service which Bevan was instrumental in establishing.

Mr Foot later went to his

terraced house at 10 Morgan Street, Tredegar, to be interviewed by Mr Walter Cronkite the American television journalist, who is making a series of programmes on the election campaign for the Independent Television programme *World in Action*. Mr Cronkite said after the interview that he found Mr Foot "an educated and intelligent man but he expected the Labour leader to have sharp differences with President Reagan if he were to become Prime Minister."

Mr Foot's wife, Jill, Craigie, who has been campaigning with Mr Foot this week will now start her own campaign in marginal constituencies. She visits Croydon today but will join her husband for a tour of south coast constituencies

Make or break time for Britons to decide on European membership

By Patricia Clough

THE ISSUES THE EEC

The elections will probably be the last chance for Britons to vote on membership of the European Community.

To pull out voters would have to return Labour with a clear overall majority. The other parties are firmly committed to staying in Europe and Mr David Steel has declared that the Alliance would not consent to withdrawal in the event of a coalition with Labour.

If Labour fails, even staunch party anti-marketisers admit privately, it would have little hope of raising the issue at subsequent elections. Barring dramatic events, Britain would by then be so enmeshed in the Community, the budget problem presumably solved and the public so accustomed to it that it would be neither practical nor politically realistic to demand withdrawal.

Even Labour's own position has softened in recent months. Its official policy now states that negotiations for withdrawal, which would take time, although they should be completed within the Government's lifetime. But the process must be "amicable and orderly" so as "not to prejudice employment."

That qualification is clearly in response to serious concern in sections of the party and among a number of trade union leaders about the likely effect on jobs. It would seem to leave the party an escape route from its own policy.

It is not yet clear how important the question will be in the campaign. Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's chief spokesman on home affairs, has said it will not be a central issue. The other parties say it would be if Labour wanted to make it one, but there is evidence that a number of Labour candidates are unhappy withdrawal and prefer to play the subject down.

The general feeling among all parties is that it will probably be among the first six topics, overshadowed by unemployment and economic questions.

No-one is quite clear, in fact, whether the issue can affect voting, and if so, in which direction. Public attitudes to the EEC are more volatile than on any other political theme, pollsters say.

In the past week, two polls have found the electorate 65 per cent and 54 per cent in favour of staying, the highest support for membership for three years and an extraordinary reversal of recent hostility. A year ago the figure was 60 per cent in favour of leaving.

But attention will now be focused on the foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels on May 24 and 25. Signs of

progress will clearly favour Mrs Thatcher while difficulties could add fuel to Labour's allegation that the Prime Minister promised to get a solution by the end of June and has clearly failed.

In the main, the issue will be fought in terms of jobs. The Conservatives claim that withdrawal would put 2,500,000 jobs at risk. Labour retorts that unemployment will rise to five million anyway if Britain stays.

For Labour, the EEC rules are the shortcut to socialist policies. The party also reflects the feelings of many of its supporters, workers whose jobs or living standards have suffered and who resent the influx of foreign products on the British market.

The Conservatives and the SDP/Liberal Alliance argue that the EEC has been unfairly made a scapegoat for Britain's economic woes, that the country has benefited from membership and the shortcomings must be improved from within. There is no realistic, alternative market, and withdrawal would also jeopardize valuable investment by foreign companies, particularly American and Japanese ones, using Britain as a base.

Both sides in the Community on January 1, 1972. A referendum on January 1, 1972 in favour of staying. Trade with the EEC rose from 1972 to 1978 by 22 per cent. The Liberal/Social Democratic Alliance has completed all adoptions.

Tories told of battle for jobs

Conservative candidates in the general election were told by the Prime Minister yesterday that the Government's record on unemployment.

With the opposition parties unanimous in immediately branding the Tory manifesto as promising "More of the same", Mrs Margaret Thatcher told about 400 prospective candidates at the traditional eve-of-election conference that Conservative policies offered the best prospects for jobs.

She reminded the enthusiastic gathering at Central Hall, Westminster, that Labour governments always left office with higher unemployment than when they came in. "We are in the battle for more jobs," she said. "Our policies will produce jobs in the future."

Mrs Thatcher's remarks underline her acceptance that the unemployment figures will be the main focus of the opposition campaign during the election and her belief that attack will be the best way of countering it.

Also giving the candidates their battle orders yesterday were Mr Michael Jopling, the chief whip, Sir Geoffrey Howe and Chancellor, and Mr Cecil Parkinson, the party chairman.

Mrs Thatcher sent them in their constituencies happy, with the message to be "cool, calm and elected" after taking them through the political outlined in the manifesto and telling them to shout from the housetops the Government's good record on pensions and the health services at a time of world recession and when it was still paying Labour's debts.

Referring to the manifesto's proposals for trade union reform, she said that the step-by-step approach had paid off well, and there was noisy applause when she mentioned the plans to abolish the Greater London Council and metropolitan counties.

Telling the candidates to expose Labour's "extreme" policies, the Prime Minister said the Opposition, offered "spend, spend, spend and borrow" in contrast to the Government's properly costed programme.

A tape of the Conservatives' campaign song "Maggie for Me", which was unveiled yesterday, is being sent to local constituency associations.

Parkinson denies film story

Mr Cecil Parkinson, chairman of the Conservative Party, denied that Tories were taking over empty hospitals and factories as the setting for propaganda films, with actors and actresses playing the role of nurses, doctors and workers.

He was speaking at the manifesto-launching press conference after some newspapers had reported that the recently closed Midway Mission Hospital, Bethnal Green, east London, was to be used as the backdrop to a party political programme.

Mr Parkinson's advice to a questioner was: "Don't believe everything you read in the newspapers. There were no actors involved."

Two to go for the Tories

The Conservatives have now completed the selection of candidates for all but two of the 633 constituencies in Great Britain. Legal challenges are in prospect in two constituencies, Thanet, North, and Bridgend.

Labour has only one selection conference outstanding, that in the new constituency of Sedgfield, co Durham, where the choice will be made tomorrow. The Liberal/Social Democratic Alliance has completed all adoptions.

Scots reforms

Labour launched its Scottish manifesto yesterday with a firm commitment to a Scottish Assembly which would help spearhead an industrial recovery and regeneration. Local authorities will also be given greater freedom to decide their policies and rates.

Smear claim

Labour's press officer, Mr Francis Beckett, said that a Conservative advertisement, which is a series of "I sign away" declarations, was misleading, a smear, and a sign that the campaign had become dirty.

Adams stands

Mr Richard Adams, author of *Watership Down*, is to stand as an Independent Conservative in Spelthorne, opposing Mr Humphrey Atkins, the Conservative MP, who is a strong supporter of hunting.

Ecology hope

The Ecology Party hoped to win 5 per cent of the vote in the 100 constituencies it was fighting. Mr Jonathan Porritt, a co-chairman of the party, said yesterday.

مكتبة من راصيل

Tories offer freedom and a steadfast progress to recovery

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, leader of the Conservative Party, says in foreword to the manifesto.

In the last four years, Britain has recovered her confidence and self-respect. We have regained the regard and admiration of other nations. We are seen today as a people with integrity, resolve and the will to succeed.

This manifesto describes the achievements of four years of Conservative government and sets out our plans for our second term.

The choice before the nation is stark: either to continue our present steadfast progress towards recovery, or to follow policies more extreme and more damaging than those ever put forward by any previous Opposition.

We face three challenges: the defence of our country, the employment of our people and the prosperity of our economy.

How to defend Britain's traditional liberties and distinctive way of life is the most vital decision that faces the people at this election.

We have enjoyed peace and security for thirty-eight years - peace with freedom and

justice. We dare not put that security at risk.

Every thinking man and woman wants to get rid of nuclear weapons. To do that we must negotiate patiently from a position of strength, not abandon ours in advance.

The universal problem of our time, and the most intractable, is unemployment.

The answer is not bogus social contracts and government overspending. Both, in the end, destroy jobs. The only way to a lasting reduction in unemployment is to make the right products at the right prices, supported by good services. The Government's role is to keep inflation down and offer real incentives for enterprise. As we win back customers, so we win back jobs.

We have a duty to protect the most vulnerable members of our society, many of whom contributed to the heritage we now enjoy. We are proud of the way we have shielded the pensioner and the National

Health Service from the ravages of recession.

Only if we create wealth can we continue to do justice to the old and the sick and the disabled. It is economic success which will provide the surest guarantee of help for those who need it most.

Our history is the story of a free people - a great chain of people stretching back into the past and forward into the future.

All are linked by a common belief in freedom, and in Britain's greatness. All are aware of their own responsibility to contribute to both.

Our past is witness to their continuing courage, honesty and flair, and to their ability to change and create. Our future will be shaped by those same qualities.

The task we face is formidable. Together, we have achieved much over the past four years. I believe it is now right to ask for a new mandate to meet the challenge of our times.



The way ahead: Mr William Whitelaw (centre) and Mr Norman Tebbit heeding their leader's words at yesterday's press conference.

Priority to peace through strength

On defence, the manifesto says: For nearly four decades, Europe has been at peace. The strength of the Western Alliance has kept our own freedoms secure. The possession of nuclear weapons by both sides has been an effective deterrent to another war in Europe.

The policies which our Labour opponents now propose would put at risk all this hard-won security.

The protection of peace We will fully support the negotiations to reduce the deployment of nuclear weapons. But we will not gamble with our defence.

The Western Alliance can keep the peace only if we can convince any potential aggressor that he would have to pay an unacceptable price. To do so, NATO must have strong conventional forces backed by a nuclear deterrent. And we in Britain must maintain our own independent nuclear contribution to British and European defence. At the same time, we shall continue to support all realistic efforts to reach balanced and verifiable agreements with the Soviet Union on arms control and disarmament.

We have substantially increased our defence expenditure in real terms. We have honoured our promise to give our regular and reserve forces proper pay and conditions and the equipment they need to do the job.

We propose to amend the Civil Defence Act 1948 to enable civil defence funds to be used in safeguarding against peacetime emergencies as well as against hostile attacks.

Britain in Europe The creation of the European Community has been vital in cementing lasting peace in Europe and ending centuries of hostility. We came to office determined to make a success of British membership of the Community. This we have done.

The European Community is the world's largest trading group. It is by far our most important export market. Withdrawal would be a catastrophe for this country. As many as two million jobs would be at risk. We would lose the great export advantages and the attraction to overseas investors which membership now gives us.

This Government's approach is straightforward and resolute. We mean what we say. We face the truth, even when it is painful. And we stick to our purpose.

build more courtrooms to reduce delays in trying criminal cases. There must be enough places to cope with sentences imposed by the courts.

We will also respond to the increasing public concern over obesity and offences against public decency, which often have links with serious crime. We propose to introduce legislation to deal with the most serious of these problems, such as the dangerous spread of violent and obscene video cassettes.

We accept the case for an independent prosecution service, and will consider how it might best be set up. We intend to extend substantially the grounds that disqualify those with criminal records from serving on juries.

Ulster pledge

The people of Northern Ireland will continue to be offered a framework for participation in local democracy and progress through the Assembly. There will be no change in Northern Ireland's constitutional position in the United Kingdom without the consent of the majority of people there, and no devolution of powers without widespread support throughout the community.

Reforms for councils and unions

The central part of the manifesto deals with reform in local government and the trade unions. Local government: saving ratepayers' money

We have checked the relentless growth of local government spending and manpower is now back down to the level of 1974. We shall legislate to curb excessive and irresponsible rate increases by high-spending councils, and to provide a general scheme for limitation of rate increases for all local authorities to be used if necessary.

In addition, for industry we will require local authorities to consult local representatives of industry and commerce before setting their rates. We shall give more businesses the right to pay by instalments. And we shall stop the raising of empty industrial property.

The Metropolitan Councils and the Greater London Council have been shown to be a wasteful and unnecessary tier of government. We shall abolish them and return most of their functions to the boroughs and districts. Services which need to be administered over a wider area - such as police and fire, and education in inner London - will be run by joint boards of borough or district representatives.

Reviving Britain's cities The £60m we have earmarked for the Urban Development Grant this year will be matched by up to four times that sum from private firms investing in new developments. On Merseyside, Operation

Groundwork has brought together landowners, local industry and local authorities to tackle the squalor and dereliction on the edge of towns. The lessons of this and many other Merseyside initiatives will now be applied in other urban areas.

Public transport We shall further relax bus licensing to permit a wider variety of services.

The GLC has grossly mismanaged London Transport. We shall set up a new London Regional Transport Authority for the Underground, buses and commuter trains in the London area. This will provide the opportunity to split the different types of transport into separate operating bodies, put more services out to private tender and offer the passenger better performance.

In the country, we shall ensure better use of school and special buses for local communities. Restrictions on minibuses will be cut.

We want to see a high-quality, efficient railway service. That does not mean simply providing ever-larger subsidies from the taxpayer. Nor, on the other hand, does it mean embarking upon a programme of major route closures. There is, however, scope for substantial cost reductions in British Rail which are needed to justify investment in a modern and efficient railway.

Fewer restrictive practices and much more attention to the customer are also essential. Rail services are now facing

vigorous competition from coaches and cars, and they need to respond with more innovative and more modern work methods. We shall examine ways of decentralising BR and bringing in private enterprise to serve railway customers.

Jobs, prices and unions Both trade union members and the general public have welcomed the 1980 and 1982 Employment Acts.

But some trade union leaders still abuse their power against the wishes of their members and the interests of society. Our 1982 Green Paper, *Democracy in Trade Unions*, points the way to give union members control over their own unions. We shall give union members the right to

hold ballots for the election of governing bodies of trade unions; decide periodically whether their unions should have party political funds.

We shall also curb the legal immunity of unions to call strikes without the prior approval of those concerned through a fair and secret ballot.

Political levy Consultations on the Green Paper have confirmed that there is widespread disquiet about how the right of individual trade union members not to pay the political levy operates in practice, through the system of contracting-out.

We propose to amend the law to discuss the steps which the trade unions themselves can take to ensure that individual members are freely and effectively able to decide for themselves whether or not to pay the political levy. In the event that the trade unions are not willing to take such steps, the Government will be prepared to introduce measures to guarantee the free and effective right of choice.

Essential services The proposal to curb immunity in the absence of pre-strike ballots will reduce the risk of strikes in essential services. In addition, we shall consult further about the need for industrial relations in specified essential services to be governed by adequate procedure agreements, breach of which would deprive industrial action of immunity.

Until now, HM inspectors' reports have remained secret. Now we are publishing them and making sure they are followed up, too.

We are not satisfied with the selection of the training of our teachers. Our White Paper sets out an important programme for improving teacher training colleges. We shall switch the emphasis in the Education Welfare Service back to school attendance, so as to reduce truancy.

We have given special help for refresher courses for teachers, research into special schools, play groups and nursery schools where they are most needed. We shall also encourage schools to keep proper records of their pupils' achievements, buy more computers, and carry out external

graded tests. The public examination system will be improved, and O-level standards maintained. We are setting up fourteen pilot projects to bring better technical education to teenagers. The success of these will play a vital part in raising technical training in Britain to the level of our best overseas competitors.

We are reviewing the family jurisdiction of the courts, including their conciliation role, with a view to improving the administration of family law. We shall also reform the divorce laws to offer further protection to children, and to secure fairer financial arrangements when a marriage ends.

We accept the case for an independent prosecution service, and will consider how it might best be set up. We intend to extend substantially the grounds that disqualify those with criminal records from serving on juries.

The proposals embodied in our Police and Criminal Evidence Bill will help the police to bring criminals to justice. At the same time, they will reinforce public support for the police by laying down clear rules for the proper treatment of suspects. We shall also

promote closer partnership between the State and the private sectors in the exchange of facilities and of ideas in the interests of all patients. Giving parents more power is one of the most effective ways of raising educational standards. We shall continue to seek ways of widening parental choice and influence over their children's schooling.

We shall defend church school as an independent schools alternative against our opponents' attacks. And we shall defend the right of parents to spend their own money on educating their children.

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Use of land

In our crowded country the planning system has to strike a delicate balance. It must provide for the homes and workplaces we need. It must protect the environment in which we live.

One particular way to achieve this is by bringing back into use the thousands of acres lying derelict and unused, so much of which is in the ownership of local authorities or other public bodies. We have set up Land Registers to identify this land, and we shall use our powers to bring it into use. The more this land can be used, the less the need to build on Green Belts and the countryside.

We will also bring open-cast coal-mining within proper planning control, and we shall establish more control over intensive livestock units near residential areas.

We shall press ahead with the development of safe nuclear power. It is an important way of securing lower-cost electricity for the future. We shall set up an Energy Efficiency Office to encourage the Government's conservation effort, so as to ensure that the taxpayer gets the best value for money.

Agricultural aid

We welcome the fact that, after long negotiations, the National Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners' Association have agreed on the best way to secure more farm tenancies available for young people. We shall legislate on these lines at an early opportunity.

During the next Parliament, we shall introduce measures to restrict the fishing industry and to encourage investment and better marketing.

Help for the family

Freedom and responsibility go together. The Conservative Party believes in encouraging people to take responsibility for their own decisions. We shall continue to return more choice to individuals and their families. That is the way to increase personal freedom. It is also the way to improve standards in the state services.

In the next Parliament, we will give many thousands more families the chance to buy their homes. For public sector tenants, the present "Right to Buy" scheme will be improved and extended to include the right to buy houses on leasehold land and the right to buy on a shared ownership basis. The maximum discount will be increased by one per cent a year for those who have been tenants for between twenty and thirty years, taking the maximum discount to 60 per cent. We shall also help first-time buyers who are not council tenants through low-cost home-ownership schemes: "homesteading", building for sale,

he disagrees more than he agrees) will be his main campaign weapon, with his universally acknowledged reputation as a "good constituency man".

Dr Elizabeth Cottrell who, as Conservative candidate, has already caused a stir in the town by announcing she is expecting her first child in November at the age of 42, readily agrees Mr Weitch is her "biggest hurdle" to overcome if she is to reach Westminster.

She quickly points out that Mr Weitch is not representative of his "extreme" party and she believes Mrs Thatcher's reputation as a leader and the changing face of Labour will enable her to succeed.

There is no doubting where Dr Cottrell stands in Conservative Party thinking. Not only is she a great admirer of, and speech writer for, Mrs Thatcher, she speaks in a similar manner, using the same phrases.

Local Labour Party officials have not been slow in pointing out that Dr Cottrell, daughter of a mine worker, is second-in-charge at the Centre for Policy Studies, the think tank set up by Mrs Thatcher and Sir Keith

Lower taxes

In the last four years, we have made great strides in reducing and simplifying taxes.

Further improvements in allowances and lower rates of income tax remain a high priority, together with measures to reduce the poverty and unemployment traps.

We want to encourage wider ownership. This means lowering taxes on capital and savings; encouraging individuals to invest directly in company shares; and encouraging the creation of more employee share schemes.

Help for new technologies

We will promote, in partnership with industry, the Alvey programme for research into advanced information technology. For accelerating the transfer of technology from the university laboratory to the market place, especially by the encouragement of science parks, we shall help firms to launch new products through pilot schemes and public purchasing.

In the next Parliament, we will sanction the launch of new cable networks to bring wider choice to consumers, not just for entertainment

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Sudan puts down mutiny of southern troops and blames foreign contacts

Khartoum (Reuter)—The Sudanese Army has put down a mutiny among troops in Southern Sudan, the Army Commander said yesterday. The mutiny broke out last Sunday in a battalion of the First Division of the Southern Region. It gave no immediate details of casualties.

Signs of unrest have recently re-emerged in Southern Sudan after several years of quiet. The South fought a 17-year civil war until 1972 against the rule of the north.

Army announcement said: Signs of indiscipline were noticed among the battalions in the past few months in addition to remarkable financial irregularities.

"But we resorted to wisdom and tolerance and tried to tackle the situation with an authentic national spirit aimed at preserving the integrity and security of the country."

The announcement said the troops' behaviour was because of "foreign contacts and instigations." The authorities had watched closely until the situation in a company of the disbanded battalion "reached the stage of disobeying orders," the statement said.

"When decisive measures became imperative in order to maintain the unity of the country and discipline and prestige of the armed forces the Army staged successful military operations on positions of the

company in Bor and Fabor in Jonglei province."

The army captured huge amounts of arms and ammunition in Bor, the statement said.

The captured arms were from abroad. "This indicated that something was being plotted against Sudan's unity and security as part of a hostile criminal act against the Sudan."

The announcement did not identify the source of arms or the foreign contacts. Sudan has repeatedly accused Libya of trying to sow unrest in the Southern Region.

Last February, President Nimeiry accused Libya of plotting to parachute insurgents into Khartoum to overthrow the Government.



Anti-war youths disrupt Bundestag

Bonn—Security men taking firm action in Bonn yesterday against a group of youths who burst into the West German Bundestag, threw paint and raised anti-war banners. They also stormed the Speaker's rostrum in the Lower House as deputies were taking part in a special session, Reuter reports.

Officials dragged away about 25 young people involved in the demonstration after they had thrown bags of red paint at the giant symbolic eagle behind the Speaker's podium and chanted slogans.

The protesters were among some 500 young people invited by President Carstens and the political parties to

attend a special "youth question-time". They unfurled banners saying "End fascism" and "No more war" and scattered leaflets demanding "Freedom for Mao".

After the demonstrators had been removed, Herr Rainer Barzel, the Bundestag Speaker, called them vandals.

Clerks seek Catalan control over failed bank

From Richard Wigg Madrid

More than 1,500 employees of the Banco Catalana, the ailing regional banking group, demonstrated yesterday outside the Prime Minister's office here against the decision to sell it to a consortium of Madrid-based private banks.

As the Cabinet was holding its regular meeting the protesters handed in a petition demanding that the Banca Catalana, with acknowledged losses of £817m last year, should be nationalized, or at least kept under Catalan control.

The leader of the bank employees' Socialist trade union accused the Gonzales Government of "lacking the courage" to confront Spain's biggest private banks.

The Economics Minister of the region's autonomous government backed the demand for a Catalan solution. He complained that the Bank of Spain had opted for a simple technical way out, ignoring the political implications.

Acting swiftly to stifle growing demands for nationalization, the Bank of Spain had on Tuesday night approved the sale to the consortium. The stricken Banco Catalana has only been kept going since last autumn by the intervention of the Bank of Spain's deposit guarantees fund, jointly financed by the Exchequer and the private banks.

Curfew imposed in Upper Volta

Abidjan, Ivory Coast (Reuter)—Upper Volta's military Government has clamped a dusk to dawn curfew on the country after President Jean-Baptiste Ouédraogo's apparent move against radical elements in his ruling People's Salvation Council (CSP), diplomatic sources said.

There was still no official confirmation that Captain Thomas Sankara, the Prime Minister, considered the most radical member of the 120 member CSP, had been detained. But the independent Upper

Volta daily *L'Observateur* said yesterday that both he and Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, another prominent left-winger, were detained at dawn on Tuesday along with other military leaders.

Diplomatic sources in Ouagadougou, the capital said Major Ouédraogo's future hinged on the attitude of paratroop regiment stationed at Debougou, 125 miles west of the capital, where Captain Sankara, a paratrooper, remains very popular.

Contacted by telephone they

said that they were not surprised by Major Ouédraogo's move against CSP members whom he accused of being demagogues and of acting irresponsibly.

● **OUAGADOUGOU:** The Upper Volta capital was calm yesterday and tanks had withdrawn from the streets one day after the "purge" of the council, AFP reports.

The Volta population had returned to work, and the tanks which were stationed near the Prime Minister's residence had left the area.

Britain shows interest in Greek frigates order

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece wants four new frigates for its navy, with an option for another three, and British Shipbuilders has shown strong interest in the project.

Each frigate would cost about £130m to build. Equipment and accessories, as well as training of personnel could raise the total outlay for the four warships to £1,000m.

Sources said the Greek Government wants the ships to be built under licence at Hellenic Shipyards, near Piraeus, which are owned by Mr Stavros Niarchos, the ship owner. Greece recently bought two frigates from The Netherlands.

Hellenic Shipyards gained substantial experience by building six of the Greek Navy's 12 Combatant missile boats under French licence.

Plans for the latest project come as Greece and Britain are negotiating a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the arms industry.

Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, said that the British-German-Italian consortium that manufactures the aircraft.

Britain feels it has not had its fair share of Greek defence contracts since the restoration of democracy, despite its refusal, unlike other countries, to sell arms to the colonels.

Mr Pattie, after his talks with Greek officials, believes that Greece will make its choice within a month and will probably opt in favour of a 50-50 American-European mix. He wanted to make sure that the European choice was the Tornado.

ment, has just spent three days in Athens to carry the negotiations one stage further. He expected the document to be signed in July.

His main mission, however, was to persuade the Greek Government, which is on the verge of ordering between 100 and 120 new warplanes to meet the needs of the Air Force until the year 2000, to choose the Tornado, by offering inducements in the form of easier credits.

Mr Pattie, who saw Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, told *The Times* he felt encouraged that the Tornado, which is competing against the American F16 and F18 as well as the French Mirage 2000, had very real chances of being selected.

The Greeks had apparently appreciated the Tornado's role as a deterrent, in view of its capability for deep penetration, but also the value of the deal offered and the partnership proposed by Panavia, the British-German-Italian consortium that manufactures the aircraft.

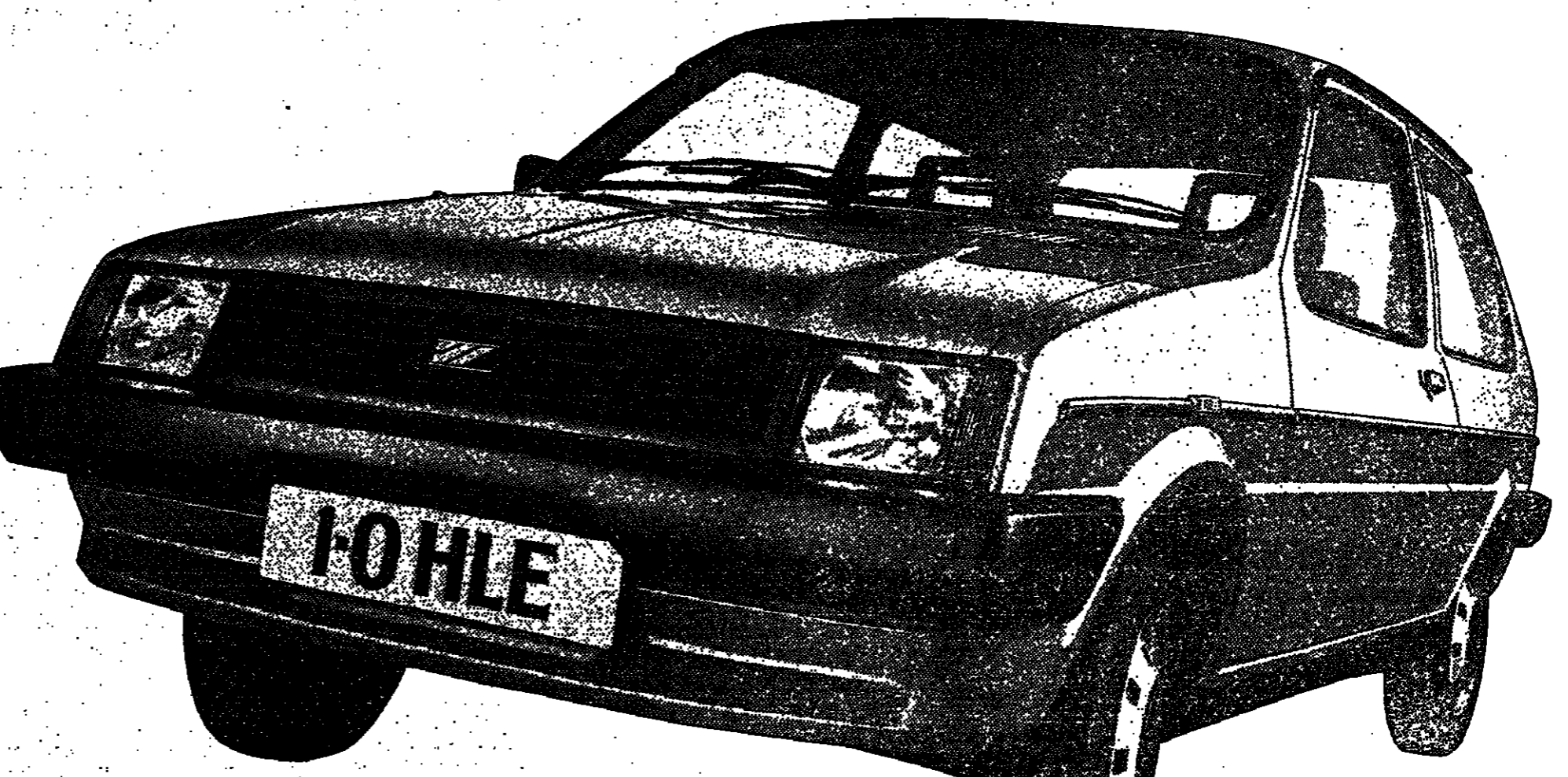
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AUSTIN ROVER



BRITAIN'S BEST LITTLE CAR GOES A LOT FURTHER: 64.1 MPG.



The Metro set new standards in little car economy. The '83 10-car range knows how to go even further on a gallon. The 1.0 HLE, for instance, can get over 64MPG. The affordable Metro City, at £3,380, can get over 53MPG. Even the luxurious Vanden Plas and exhilarating MG Metro Turbo can achieve over 50MPG.

And for added economy most Metro models go 12,000 miles between services!

EVEN BETTER SPECIFICATION.

The '83 Austin Metros all come with newly designed front seats and side window demisters. Most models have a remote control driver's door mirror, opening rear quarter lights and a thoughtful loadspace lamp.

All are available with Metrosurance, comprehensive insurance cover from as little as £55.

And all models, from the economical City to the plush Vanden Plas to the sporty MG 1300, enjoy Metro's ingenious design combination of feeling like a big car inside but handling (and parking) like a small car outside.

So if you like driving you'll like a Metro.

FREE 6 YEAR CORROSION WARRANTY.

When you buy a Metro you're protecting your investment. First with Supershield, our new corrosion warranty. It lasts for 6 full years and it's free. Then with Supercover, the most comprehensive first year warranty scheme of any manufacturer.

And last, but not least, with Metro's high resale value.

BRITAIN'S BEST SELLING LITTLE CAR.

Your Austin Rover dealer can arrange immediate

delivery of your choice of model in your favourite colour. Test drive an '83 Metro, and you'll see why Britain's best little car is Britain's best selling little car.

AUSTIN METRO FROM £3,380 DRIVING IS BELIEVING

Relics of Imperial India European accents in the gentlemen's club

From Michael Hamlyn, Madras

There are dotted about India some striking relics of its imperial past. One such is the bust of Queen Victoria which still stands here in Madras. Most such statues disappeared very early on in a fit of post-independence fervour.

In Delhi for instance the statue of King George V which used to stand under a canopy by the India Gate went very early on. It was to be replaced, everyone agreed, with a statue of Mahatma Gandhi, but no one could agree whether he should be depicted standing or sitting, so the plinth is still vacant.

Another survival is the gentlemen's club. There is a well-known one at Ootacamund, where long ago they invented snooker. At the Madras Club they invented Mulligatawny soup. The Madras Club still stands though it crumbles a trifle. There are terraces overlooking the splendidly colonial roof beams, and it has suffered a few changes. Essentially, however, it is the same.

The membership has been allowed to increase from 200 to 225. The past of the visitors' book signed by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh has had to be taken away for renovation after some tearways vandalized it. One of the most significant changes, perhaps, occurred when the committee decided to replace the *Daily Telegraph*, which each day was fixed to a Victorian lectern on the porch, with the *International Herald Tribune*.

By far the largest proportion of the members now are of course Indians but still most people making use of it are expatriate Europeans. The German accent is often heard

at dinner and some of the English accents have Scandinavian tints. The Russian Consul General is not a member. "Though we'd be delighted to have him" said one.

The club walls are still decorated with original sketches by the Daniels - father and son - who travelled the subcontinent after Victoria became Empress of India. They created the images by which her British subjects became familiar with her new domain.

There are no women members though women may become associate members.

As the sun goes down and the Southern Cross hangs low in the night sky, the members can gather on the verandah, a fan stirring the humid air, and retrace the 150-year history of their establishment.

As they sip their gin or fresh lime juice they tell of the various eccentricities of their older members, like the one who bred snakes at home until his landlord tried to have him evicted for keeping venomous animals; or the strange mischance that had a seventeenth-century Englishman called Sir Francis Day fall in love with a Portuguese girl from the trading post of San Thome.

Day decided to put his own trading post on a headland near by, fortify it and call it Fort St George. He did not appear to mind that there was very little natural water available.

Fort St George developed into Madras. The water did not get much more abundant, and the splendid lawn that leads down to the polluted green stream bordering the grounds of the club is brown and burnt.

Official D.O.C.T. Figures: Metro 1.0HLE Urban Cycle 46.4MPG (6.11 per 100km); Constant 56MPH 64.1MPG (4.41 per 100km); Constant 75MPH 45.3MPG (6.21 per 100km). Price quoted is for Metro City model (illustrated) at £4,398. Prices correct at time of going to press, excluding dealer plates and delivery. Metallic paint optional at extra cost. 8 Metro City Urban Cycle 40.7MPG (8.51 per 100km); Constant 56MPH 53.2MPG (5.21 per 100km); Constant 75MPH 37.5MPG (7.21 per 100km). Metro Vanden Plas Urban Cycle 37.7MPG (8.41 per 100km); Constant 56MPH 51.2MPG (5.61 per 100km); Constant 75MPH 37.5MPG (7.21 per 100km). Metro MG Turbo Urban Cycle 34.6MPG (8.21 per 100km); Constant 56MPH 50.3MPG (5.61 per 100km); Constant 75MPH 35.4MPG (8.01 per 100km). © Or one full year, whichever comes first (except automatic and turbocharged models). Subject to model, age, no claim bonus and locality.

Apology for faked Hitler diaries

Stern editor takes blame

From Michael Binyon, Hamburg

Herr Henri Nannen, founder and editor-in-chief of Stern, apologizes today to the magazine's 1,600,000 readers for what has been called the worst scandal in journalistic history...

journalists, who again yesterday held mass protest meetings to press their demands for Herr Nannen's resignation...

two new editors, Herr Peter Scholl-Latour and Herr Johannes Gross, nor dismiss Herr Nannen and Herr Schulte-Hillen...

will not go on strike, as they do not want to damage Stern any further, but rather would like to bring it back to its former influential position...



Herr Nannen: Journalists say he must resign.



Herr Scholl-Latour: Backing from parent company.



Herr Gross: Not seen since his appointment.

Central American turmoil: El Salvador's victims; Contadora moves spurned

Revenge killings and a legacy of moral chaos

San Salvador, (NYT) - The Government of El Salvador has released more than 50 of the country's 700 political prisoners since the beginning of the year...

newspapers had reported that 15 people, including a student and doctor, had been picked up by the National Guard for having political sympathies...

Peace mission derided by guerrillas on border

From Martha Honey, San José, Costa Rica

Costa Rican-based anti-Sandinista guerrilla movements are opposed to regional peace efforts by the four Latin American countries comprising "Contadora Group"...

San José, Costa Rica (AP) - The former Sandinista hero, Señor Eder Pastora and Señor Fernando "el Negro" Chamorro, the leader of the Nicaraguan Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARN)...

Philadelphia Democrats prefer black for mayor

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Mr Wilson Goode, a sharecropper's son who is seeking to become the first black Mayor of Philadelphia, yesterday won the city's Democratic mayoral nomination...

He won about 53 per cent of the votes cast and Mr Rizzo 46 per cent, with four outsiders picking up only a handful of votes between them...

They were heartened, however, by the fact that their candidate won about 25 per cent of the white vote in the primary as well as capturing virtually all the black vote...



Victory handshake: Mr Goode gives thanks to the supporters who helped him to win the primary.

Rome terror group is broken up

Rome - Police believe they have broken up one of the last two Red Brigades splinter groups left in Rome, after failure of a terrorist raid on a suburban post office...

One young man was captured on Tuesday when police arrived, while another surrendered after holding two hostages for five hours...

Paris (Reuters) - The Paris Court of Appeal rejected bail applications for three Irish nationalists held on charges of possessing arms and explosives...

Easer cure

Tokyo (AFP) - Japanese medical experts have cured athlete's foot, ringworm and other skin diseases with laser beams...

Dhaka purge

Dhaka (Reuters) - Military authorities in Bangladesh have dismissed 112 civil servants, eight of them senior bureaucrats...

Whale stranded

Copenhagen (AP) - Scientists are trying to remove a stranded Arctic white whale from a Danish fjord...

Lynch law

Kampala (Reuters) - A mob of villagers battered to death five people suspected of robbery and murder near the Ugandan capital...

Fatal stroke

Titograd (AP) - Lightning killed two airport workers who sought shelter from an approaching storm under an airplane they were about to unload...

Anti-apartheid leader convicted for fraud

From Michael Harnaby, Johannesburg

Mr John Rees, a former secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches and current director of the South African Institute of Race Relations, was convicted yesterday in the Rand Supreme Court of 29 charges of fraud...

Hawke asked about envoy's aid for groups

From Tony Duboulin, Melbourne

The Liberal opposition wants to widen the terms of the Royal Commission into Australia's security and intelligence services to question whether Mr Valeriy Ivanov, the recently expelled Soviet diplomat offered money to organizations here...

Britons lose preference

Canberra (Reuters) - Australia's Labour Government, faced with rising unemployment, yesterday cut the number of migrants it will allow in by 10,000 a year...

Right gains three seats in Austrian Cabinet

Vienna (Reuters) - Austria's Socialist Chancellor-designate, Dr Fred Sinowatz yesterday announced a new 15-member coalition Government showing eight changes from the outgoing one-party Cabinet...

MEPs' stand on rights

The EEC should not provide aid to any country where the Government is "in clear breach of its obligation on the respect of human rights", the European Parliament has ruled...

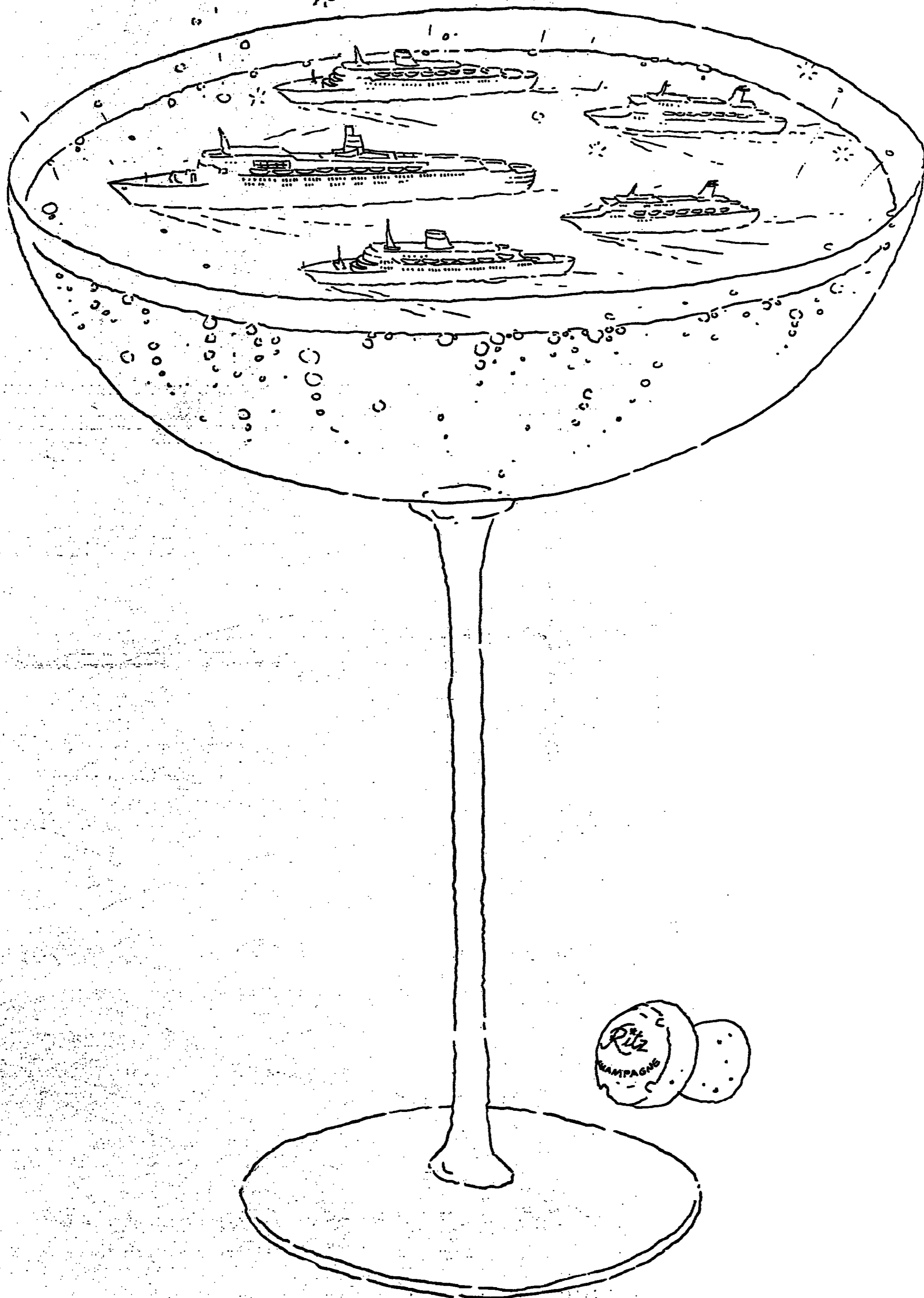


Every day in Southeast Asia, thousands of loveable pet dogs, just like yours, suffer the most horrifying pain. IFAW has helped achieve considerable success in one country, the Philippines...

DISCOUNT SHOPPING ON YOUR HOME TV. HOMELINK, the world's first home banking and shopping service will shortly be available throughout Great Britain to the general public. Developed jointly by British Telecom, Nottingham Building Society, and the Bank of Scotland...

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

CUNARD ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF THE GREATEST CRUISE FLEET AFLOAT.



Queen Elizabeth 2, Cunard Countess and Cunard Princess have just been joined by the Sagafjord and the Vistafjord from Norwegian American Cruises. Together, these 5 beautiful ships will be offering passengers more luxurious cruises than any other fleet in the world.

Queen Elizabeth 2 Cruises: 24 regular crossings to North America. Cruises to the Caribbean, Mediterranean, Scandinavia and 10th Anniversary cruise around the world. Cunard Princess Cruises: Mexican Riviera and Alaskan cruises. Cunard Countess Cruises: Year round Caribbean and South America cruises. Vistafjord Cruises: Caribbean, Mediterranean and Scandinavian cruises. Sagafjord Cruises: Caribbean, Pacific, Orient and 1984 World cruise. For more comprehensive cruise information for all five ships please see your travel agent. Or, for details of QE2, Cunard Countess and Cunard Princess contact Cunard at 8 Berkeley Street, London W1X 6NR (01-491 3930). And for details of Vistafjord and Sagafjord contact Norwegian American Cruises 11-12 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5LU (01-930 1843).

CUNARD

A Trafalgar House Company

THE ARTS

Irving Wardle investigates the blossoming of pastiche and parody in a theatre growing free of bigotry Yesterday's idols spectacularly relaunched

Parody may be the sincerest form of flattery when it comes to Max Beerbohm taking the pants off...

It would be interesting to have Miss Deegan's response to this reading of her innocent account of midnight feasts, classroom intrigue...

Cherry Orchard in the same authors' The White Glove, Vanbrugh and Sheridan, meanwhile, have been getting the treatment from Alan Ayckbourn in his rewritten A Trip to Scarborough.

Not everything in folklore is amenable to pastiche. Shakespeare and the Bible may be common property, but they are outside Miss Deegan's range.

heroes left stranded by their creators' deaths, from Flashman and Mr Rochester to James Bond and Hergé's Tintin.

offset references to the Depression, 1940, drink problems, and the effort of dealing with big business and romance.



The Daisy (Alexandra Mathis) who pulls it off: no lack of respectable ancestors?

Dance Joyous Laura Dean Sadler's Wells

Laura Dean reminds me of the would-be philosopher who could not stop happiness from breaking in. Advance reports of her dances laid emphasis on the theories and austerity behind them.

Opera Carmen New Theatre, Cardiff

Who has the last word on Bizet's Carmen? There was Faggioli at the Edinburgh Festival staging a near-perfect version. Then came Brook in Paris with La Tragedie de Carmen at the Bouffes du Nord.

Opera Blinded by love: Micaëla (Helen Field) with José (Jacque Trussel)

trappings of peace are a carnival atmosphere, a ringmaster, a revolve and the underbasket of a ballroom from which laggards and pros are dispersed.

Theatre Dead Ringer Duke of York's

Opening with a spot of pre-election satire, getting down to business with a corpse on the Downing Street carpet, and addressed to a public who would be happy to see the cast of Yes Minister taking over the reins of government.

Theatre John Higgins

agreed. He chose well and filmed well, sometimes from horseback, which is the way, of course, the nomads get around.

Concerts A dubious mixture Anup Kumar Biswas Queen Elizabeth Hall

Tuesday night's concert, in aid of the Ethiopian Famine Relief Fund, suggested Western and Indian classical music do not mix well in the same programme.

Concerts Krause/Gage Wigmore Hall

Why are Sibelius's songs so rarely performed in this country? I suppose the complexities of the Swedish and Finnish languages have something to do with it.

Concerts Max Harrison

finest in the group) Mr Krause reserved for his first encore here, the heartily Koskimo's Finnish poem "Ilalle".

John Percival

A Kazakh proverb says that a Kazakh prizes only four things, his horse, his gun, his birthplace and his wife - and in that order.

Television Comrades of custom

presenting a film at an international competition. Tarkovsky says the first difficulty for the foreigner is in comprehending the Russian meaning of "nostalgia".

Dennis Hackett

Irving Wardle

Geoffrey Norris

PERSONAL BANK CHARGES. On May 31st we'll be making a change to the way we calculate our bank charges. The change relates to the allowance which we make on the credit balances in the account, and which we then deduct from any charges incurred.

Cannes Film Festival Eccentrically dark defeatism. The Russian's travels among the Italian monuments invariably bring him back to the thermal baths of Bagno Vignoni, in Tuscany.

SUMMER GARDENS NUMBER. A Warwickshire Garden in Colour Arthur Hellyer visits Ilmington Manor, near Shipston-on-Stour. Chelsea Flower Show A preview by Robert Pearson.

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

ICI soars on US buying

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, May 9. Dealings end, May 20. Contango Day, May 23. Settlement Day, May 31.

The Americans are still big fans of ICI. Yesterday they made their point by starting a stampede for the shares and pushing the price up 2 1/2p to equal the year's high of 476p.

This latest move coincided with a seminar at the Savoy Hotel arranged by brokers De Zoete & Bevan to discuss the group's loss-making petrochemicals and plastics division.

Those present seemed to have decided that the worst may now be over. Recent first quarter figures from ICI showed losses at this division reduced from between £30m and £40m to only £10m. Last year the total loss was £139m.

The recent strength of the Deutsche Mark combined with higher prices and a slight pick-up in demand should see those losses greatly reduced. It is doubtful that the deficit will exceed £30m for the year as a whole. As a result De Zoete are looking for profits for the entire group of £500m this year and possibly a record £700m next year.

But other ICI watchers believe the share price may be running ahead of events, with the Americans using ICI shares as a hedge against renewed

weakness in the dollar. Brokers Greenwell say they are slightly more optimistic after the better-than-expected first quarter figures, but would not chase the price above 450p.

Bankers, Noble Grassart, has offered 5m shares at 40p each in 163/2 plantations company, Anglo America Agricultural, formerly Scottish Ceylon Tea. It hopes to raise £4m to help expand the company's vineyard and jobba acreages in the US and take nearer the ambitious target of a £30m to £50m capitalisation and full listing within two years. The company's shares are currently held by a number of leading institutions and trade at 40p.

In the event, the surge in the price of ICI and P & O was mainly responsible for the 14.2 jump in the FT index to 639.8 - its biggest one-day gain for more than two months.

US investors were also responsible for another record session on the traded options market where 9,277 contracts were recorded - easily exceeding Monday's record of 9,115 contracts. Investors are banking on a landslide victory for the Conservatives at next month's General Election which they hope will result in another boost to share prices.

Gilts enjoyed renewed support, sporting gains of up to 1/2p, at one stage on the back of the firmer pound which ended the day 0.4 cents higher at £1.5640 on the foreign exchange. However, profit-taking after hours cut the lead to only 1/2p by the close.

Among the other big chips, selective support boosted Bechem 16p to 396p. Courtaulds 4p to 102p, BOC Group 3p to 204p, Glaxo 25p to 885p and Imperial Group 3p to 114p. In electricals, Pleassey was again wanted, closing 15p up at a new high of 649p, for a two-day lead

of 23p, ahead of figures next week. On the bid front, Exel, the financial news information service, stepped up its battle to win control of Beva Brothers.

BP is becoming increasingly 'excited' by the UK's on-land potential and is currently drilling a series of eight shallow wells up in the East Midlands which look promising. All good news for Floyd Oil, which has a 25 per cent stake in the project, and has risen from the 80p level recently to close at 105p last night. It is estimated a small 3 million barrel find could be worth an extra 40p a share to the group.

to raise its offer. Beva ended the day 23p up at 231p, while Exel slipped 2p to 308p. United Newspapers rose 3p to 741p after its decision not to chase the bid higher.

Mr Brian Reynolds, the 36-year-old chairman and founder of Micro Focus must be well pleased with his group's reception to first dealings on the Unlisted Securities Market. The 2.5 million shares of his group, which supplies software development aids to the microcomputer industry, were offered at a price of 155p.

Yesterday the price opened at 260p after being more than four times oversubscribed before closing at 265p.

Awaiting figures today, shares of Mr Asif Nadir's Polly Pack, the fruit and packaging group, rose £1 to £17 1/2. The market is looking for pretax profits of about £9m compared with £3m last year.

Shares of Whesoo slipped 2p to 130p after yesterday's report in The Times that Costain Group had sold its near 15 per cent stake at 134p and had given up all hopes of making a full bid.

THE TIMES 1000 1982/83 The World's Top Companies

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price Change, Div, Yld, P/E. Lists various companies like Shell, BP, ICI, etc.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price Change, Div, Yld, P/E. Lists companies like British Airways, British Telecom, etc.

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RECENT ISSUES Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, Div, Yld, P/E.

BRITISH FUNDS Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price Change, Div, Yld, P/E.

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Sterling: Spot and Forward

Table showing Sterling Spot and Forward rates for various locations like New York, London, etc.

Money Market Rates

Table showing Money Market Rates including Discount Rate, Treasury Bills, etc.

Other Markets

Table showing Other Markets including Australia, Brazil, Hong Kong, etc.

Dollar Spot Rates

Table showing Dollar Spot Rates for various countries like Ireland, Canada, etc.

Euro-Deposits

Table showing Euro-Deposits for various terms and locations.

Gold

Table showing Gold prices and related market information.

INSURANCE

Table showing Insurance rates for various companies.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table showing Investment Trusts for various funds.

PROPERTY

Table showing Property prices for various locations.

RUBBER

Table showing Rubber prices for various types.

MISCELLANEOUS

Table showing Miscellaneous market information.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table showing Unlisted Securities for various companies.

Fungicide exports rise 99 pc

By Jonathan Davis

Britain's producers of agrochemicals had another record year last year, with total sales rising by 21 per cent to £542.3m.

The British Agrochemicals Association, in its annual report, revealed that export sales were up by 27 per cent to £271.3m while domestic sales rose by 15 per cent to £271.0m.

The association said that the outstanding achievement in the export market was helped by the devaluation of the pound. British sales of fungicides were up by 18 per cent to £60.9m, and the herbicide market, the largest single sector, increased by 12 per cent to £19.7m. Insecticides sales rose by 7 per cent to £23.0m.

In percentage terms, the gains in the export market were more marked, with fungicides rising by 99 per cent to £17.9m, insecticides by 31 per cent to £85.3m, and herbicides by 17 per cent to £15.4m. The world market as a whole, however, was more stagnant, with sales increasing by only 2.0 to 2.5 per cent in real terms. Pesticide control legislation remains the key issue facing the industry, and the association says that this now lies with the EEC.

Mr David Anslow, chairman of the British Agrochemicals Association, said that prices fell during 1982, in some cases quite dramatically, hitting the funds available for new research and development.

Insurers' loss cut by mild winter

By Jonathan Clare

The UK underwriting loss for the Sun Alliance and London Insurance company was much lower in the first quarter of this year because of the much milder winter. This indication of the company's experience so far, was given at yesterday's annual meeting and reflects the results already reported by three British insurers.

The overseas results were also better, especially in Canada, but much of the improvement was offset by heavier underwriting losses in Australia because of the bush fires there.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK by Sandy McLachlan

Mettoy losses worsen as divisions slip

Mettoy
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax loss £3.8m (£2.7m)
Stated loss per share 23.6p (16.5p)
Turnover £25m (£28.2m)
No dividend
Share price 40p, down 1p.

Including the costs of closing the general toys division and the Northampton headquarters, the total loss at Mettoy is just a little worse than expected when it raised £3.1m with February's rights issue.

The total loss which the shareholders are left nursing is £4.3m against the forecast £4.2m. On the other hand, that £3.1m and the £900,000 from the sale of more than four-fifths of its Dragon 32 computer business to investors like the Prudential has reduced borrowings substantially.

Sales were down 11 per cent with particularly difficult export markets during the second-half. The figures are distorted because the sales of miscellaneous plastic pre-school toys produced by the general division were badly down while there was some growth from Dragon computers.

The traditional die-cast toys under the Corgi label will form the backbone of the toy division from now on. But sales there were also down 11 per cent last year, the result of a falling child population which is also maturing at an earlier age.

Exports suffered because the pound was comparatively strong until November and

even now, stronger than it was two months ago, it is causing problems.

This year interest charges will fall with lower borrowings and 200 per cent gearing ratios should be a thing of the past. Orders from this year's toy fairs have been encouraging - with orders up on last year.

But traders remain wary about early deliveries, and reluctant to carry heavy stocks. If Mettoy can get back to breakeven this year it will be pleased with itself but such a target looks ambitious.

A lot of hope lies in the Dragon computer where Mettoy has options to take its stake back up to 35 per cent if profits targets are met. The aim is £2m profits this year but some estimates are for up to £5m.

The big worry is that until Mettoy can get its toy division to stand on its own it will never be independent of a minority stake in Dragon and the good results expected there.

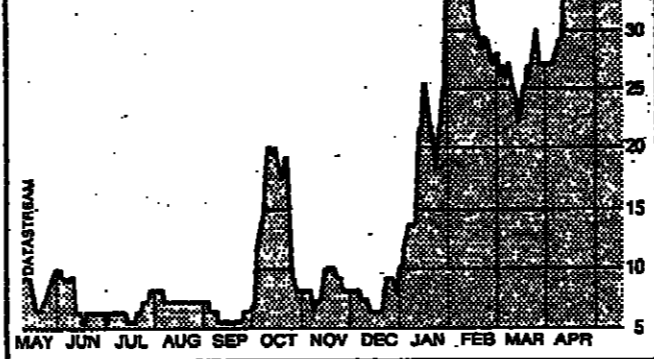
Duport

Duport
Year to 31.1.83
Pretax loss £1.1m (£325,000)
Stated loss per share 3.4p (0.7p)
Turnover £58.1m (£72.4m)
Net final dividend, nil
Share price 20½p up ½p.

Duport survived the steel-making crisis in the private sector by the skin of its teeth two years ago. Since then it has continued to rationalize its



METTOY SHARE PRICE



businesses, selling the loss-making Slumberland bed manufacturing operations in Britain and Australia, and closing two foundries during the past year.

However, there is still little for shareholders to cheer about. Figures for the year to January 31, show that pretax losses have increased to £1.1m against £325,000 in 1981 on a turnover down from £72m to £58m. And the message from the Duport board is that there are no signs of the much-lauded recovery in any of its main-stream markets.

All the company will admit to is that things have stopped getting worse. It adds a laconic rider to the effect that if this is what is meant by recovery then: "Yes, we are seeing it."

dividend on first and second preference shares, although payment of a dividend on the ordinary shares has been passed for the second consecutive year. At 2½p the shares are available at option prices to be bought for speculative recovery only. There is a chance of a resumption of dividend payments in the second half of the year but shareholders should not expect too much, too soon.

Eurobonds

Stagnant interest rates, a surplus of paper, some of it very complicated, and a drop in the volume of American borrowing have conspired to keep the Eurobond market quiet. Borrowers and lenders alike are essentially waiting for clearer economic indicators, especially in the United States, before they renew trading.

The German bond calendar will be discussed on May 20 and is expected to be smaller than recent months in which German companies have been heavy fund raisers.

The already confused market was further baffled by Monday's cryptic remark from Mr Preston Martin, deputy to Mr Paul Volcker at the United States Federal Reserve, that M1 was no longer a reliable indicator. Does this mean that the Fed has no idea of what is happening, or is it a coded hint that M1 rises need not prevent interest rates from falling?

This overall uncertainty has been compounded by the performance of particular sectors of the Eurobond market. Bank issues are only now being properly digested after trading two to three points down over the past month. There is still a view, however, that German and Japanese bank paper is fairly cheap.

Investors also seem to have lost faith in warrants. Until last week, the added spice of acquiring equities was attractive. But falling equity prices have left some gazing premiums.

Indeed, the ICI issue admirably illustrates the density of detail with which investors are expected to grapple. They can buy the paper-cum-warrant for \$114, or the bond or the warrant for \$98, or the warrant for \$160. They can convert each \$5,000 bond into sterling at a fixed rate of \$1.5775 (present exchange rate \$1.5540) and obtain for the five warrants with each bond 117 ICI shares at 550p (present price 452p).

It is not surprising therefore, that dealers now expect strong demand for straight issues from top quality borrowers rather like the Watney debenture in the British market.

The Japanese Government may come to the market soon and paper such as the Ontario Hydro 10½, 1990 went well. But if United States interest rates do come down and bond prices rise, all that could change too.

New chief for Hogg Robinson Group

Mr Morris Abbott will be retiring from the chairmanship of the Hogg Robinson Group in September. He will be succeeded by Mr Albert J. Whervey. Mr Christopher J. S. Price, at present managing director, will become chief executive.

Mr John Scott, a director of Fisons Scientific Equipment Division, has been appointed general manager of Griffin & George, the division's specialist supplier of science and technology equipment to teaching establishments.



John Scott joins Griffin & George

Mr Michael Ridout and Mr John Hill, managing director and finance director respectively, of Braby Leslie, will be joining the board of Anglo Nordic Holdings. Mr Angus Murray, a director and company secretary of Braby Leslie, will become company secretary of Anglo Nordic.

Mr C. A. Barnes has been appointed vice-president and general manager of the London regional office of the Bank of Nova Scotia with responsibility for Europe, the Middle East and Africa. He replaces Mr L. L. Fox, who returns to Canada as senior vice-president.

Mr John C. Brooman and Mr Peter J. Seaman have joined the board of BSR (UK).

Messrs C. R. Howard and J. P. F. Hawkins have been appointed to the board of Godsell.

COMMODITIES

Table with multiple columns showing commodity prices for LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, SOYABEAN MEAL, GRAIN, and COFFEES. Includes prices for various metals, grains, and coffee beans.

Table showing MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMODITIES prices, including various types of meat and livestock. Includes columns for different grades and types of meat.

Table showing LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES prices, including various financial instruments and their prices.



ESTD 1742

WHITBREAD AND COMPANY PLC

Preliminary announcement of results for the year to 26th February 1983

“There are signs that financial strength, technical expertise, and years of experience are once again being appreciated.”

Mr D.M.C. DONALD, CHAIRMAN

Extracts from the Chairman's Report 1982

The year 1982 brought little improvement in trading conditions... The expected move out of recession has not yet materialised to any significant extent... In General Branch business those who trade in primary insurance markets have been slow to learn the lessons of cash flow underwriting... but a return to a traditional philosophy of underwriting profit surely must come... Our aim is to provide the best reinsurance service rather than the cheapest and we see signs that insurers increasingly recognise the value of professionalism and security... Good progress has been maintained in our Life and Disability business. New business production was one-third higher than in 1981... Despite the continuing difficulties in the reinsurance market in 1982 the Group has ended the year in an even stronger financial position... There are signs that financial strength, technical expertise and years of experience are once again being appreciated.

Table titled 'Source of Group Premium Income by Domicile of Ceding Company' showing percentages for various regions like Canada, USA, UK, etc. Also includes a table for 'Highlights of the Results for the Group' with columns for 1981 and 1982.

Table showing financial results for Whitbread and Company PLC, including Dividend, Turnover and Profits, Changes in Accounting Policies, and Trade - UK. Includes detailed breakdown of income and expenses.

Our beer sales increased in Belgium, as did our share of the premium beer market. Calvet S.A., which was purchased in August 1982, is a leading exporter of French wines to many overseas markets. In the difficult economic environment of Nigeria, Whitbread International Trading Ltd. adopted a conservative basis in accounting for its construction projects. Profits - Current Cost Basis. The Current Cost Profit and Loss Account shows a CCA (Current Cost Accounting) dividend cover of 1.6, against cover of 2.6 under the HCA (Historic Cost Accounting) convention. The supplementary figures are prepared on the basis prescribed by SSAP 16 but the inadequacies of stipulated methods provide only limited guidance to the impact of inflation on financial results. The Future: With the continuing improvement in efficiency in our business, the strong trading position of our leading brands, our ongoing investment in retailing and overseas development, and with some signs of recovery in the economy, we have reasonable cause for future optimism.

The Mercantile and General Reinsurance Company plc. Head Office: Moorfields House, Moorfields, London EC2Y 9AL. Includes logo and contact information.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: "مركزاً من رصاص"

Financial notebook

Why rate reform is always stymied

Few would disagree with Mrs Thatcher that local property rates are "not a good system of taxation". Yet, despite their unpopularity...

The high street is in turmoil and there are too many opportunities that cannot be ignored.

Turmoil is putting it kindly but the message about opportunities was unambiguous with Sir Terence Conran said last week...

But it is not clear whether we are seeing just a recession-induced bloodletting or whether the emergence of the likes of Mr Gerald Ronson and Sir James Hanson...

A not uncommon view is that the emergence of the new retailers is the last fling of the latter-day Charlie Clores.

Property, of which UDS has a great deal, must have looked very attractive to someone who built up Britain's second largest private company on investment in bricks and mortar.

Whether those assets - either at Woolworth or UDS - can be realised is a different matter.

The second attraction for the new retailers is that retailing is far removed from the problems of manufacturing...

Customers of the high street shops have real rising incomes, the management of the business is straightforward...

Best of all, retailing is a cash generating business and not a cash consuming one - something which would appeal equally to Mr Ronson or Sir James.

Jonathan Clare looks at Britain's new breed of shopkeepers

Quiet revolution in the high street



Driving force: (from left) Gerald Ronson, Cyril Spencer, Sir Terence Conran, Ralph Halpern, Sir James Hanson

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Nobody knows whether Mr Ronson of Sir James can run a high street business.

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is getting shorter. On any 10-year performance table, Woolworth and UDS would have been propping up the bottom with Debenhams not far above.

Eliminate these four and the small success begins to waft through - the Burton Group, Marks & Spencer, Habitat, Mothercare and, who knows, maybe even Hepworth.

So why do some retailers succeed when others in the same field face a disaster?

The answer is painfully simple. The retail sector is far more mature and much more competitive than anybody believed.

Don't forget that Burton has an old score to settle; Marks & Spencer's foray into convenient menswear hit the traditional Burton suit market hard.

Price is not everything, though there is an obvious trade-off between margin and the speed at which goods leave the shelves.

Strip away that illusory growth and you are left with a number of companies with poor financial control, poor management and bad buying.

design and quality have become just as important. Price was the watchword only in the days when buyers were stalking Oxford Street to see what the young things were wearing before getting them run off in sweat shops within days.

Market share comes from asking the right questions about your customers and what they want, and then following the ones who have money to spend.

Customers with aspirations are particularly favoured. They shop in Habitat or even Burton's Top Notch for image, not utility.

There are two reasons for this change in emphasis. First, high teenage unemployment means they are no longer as free-spending as they were.

Second, demographic changes mean that the average age of women is increasing so that the bulk of potential customers will fall into the 25-plus bracket.

Successful retailing depends on design flair. This may explain the attraction of Mothercare to Sir Terence Conran and his decision to clear the decks by leaving Hepworth.

Whether they could do something with the traditional department stores is a moot point. The future there looks gloomy.

Shops and Expressions in Dorothy Perkins. And Mr Halpern would dearly like to buy the Richard Shops chain from Sir James, its new owner.

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Second, demographic changes mean that the average age of women is increasing so that the bulk of potential customers will fall into the 25-plus bracket.

This age group will soon hold most high street spending power even though their cash has traditionally been committed to young families and big mortgages.

In terms of product, leisure is the area which will grow. So we have burgeoning chains of sports shops, sportswear in the traditional clothes shops and Sears' decision to switch away from the food and towards leisure goods in its department stores.

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The best customers shop for image, not utility

Customers of the high street shops have real rising incomes, the management of the business is straightforward...

Tesco calls for action on retail jobs

The quickening pace of information technology in industries like retailing makes it unlikely that the service industries will continue indefinitely to absorb the job losses...

There had been suggestions that by 1990 the application of advanced technology systems to the distributive industry could lead to a 10 per cent cut in its workforce.

A recent University of Loughborough study forecast a 12 per cent decline in the workforce of the big five clearing banks by 1990...

Meanwhile, the National Economic Development Council forecast recently that there would be little reduction in the present, unacceptably high levels of unemployment in the years immediately ahead.

A positive attitude towards the introduction of high technology was necessary to secure economic stability for economic growth, Mr Harris said.

There were more than 40 stores in Britain with electronic point of sale systems, but estimates suggested that more than 200,000 installations would be operational by 1988 at an investment cost of about £600m.

*Courier Revolution: The Tesco Papers 1975-1982 (Tesco Stores, Delantone Road, Cheshunt, Herts EN8 9SL: £2 plus postage). IT and the Distribution Trades, by Donald Harris, from Tesco Stores.

Base Lending Rates

Table with 2 columns: Bank Name and Lending Rate. Includes ABN Bank, Barclays, BCCI, Consolidated Crds, C. Hoare & Co, Lloyds Bank, Midland Bank, Nat Westminster, TSB, Williams & Glyn's.

Advertisement for Unilever featuring the headline 'CONCEPT AND PRACTICE OF MANAGEMENT IN UNILEVER' and a quote from Mr. Kenneth Durham: 'We have some basic principles that, even in changing times, endure.' The ad lists 6 principles of Unilever's management philosophy.

Table for Granville & Co Limited. Columns: 1982 AS, High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E, and other financial metrics.

Advertisement for Sun Alliance Insurance Group. Includes the text 'ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING' and details about the meeting held at the Head Office of the Company in Bartholomew Lane, London, E.C.2.

CRICKET: TWO BENSON AND HEDGES CUP GAMES COMPLETED, TWO ABANDONED

Team effort by Hampshire clears the bar at Taunton

By Alan Gibson

TAUNTON: Hampshire (Zps) beat Somerset by 22 runs over the 45th over...



Dilley: admirable fire and control

Dilley's fast return to the front line

By Peter Ball

CANTERBURY: Kent (Zps) beat Surrey by 38 runs...

With Jarvis also bowling steadily and Underwood as tightly as ever...

Kent achieved the kind of start they needed with such a small total to protect...

Stumped without a ball being bowled

By Our Sports Staff

Heavy overnight rain and a persistent drizzle in the morning caused the abandonment yesterday of the Benson and Hedges Cup match between Middlesex and Glamorgan at Uxbridge...

Higuera beats cash flow problem

Rome (Reuter) - Jose Higuera of Spain, the top seed, struggled to stay in the Italian Open championship here yesterday...

With the French Open title fortnight ago and outstanding Sandy Lyle on their first meeting this year at Wiltshire last week...

Faldo threatened by a double danger

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

Nick Faldo, a late entry for the Car Care Plan international, to be played at Sand Moor from today until Sunday, faces a determined personal challenge on two fronts...

By depriving Severiano Ballesteros of his French Open title fortnight ago and outstanding Sandy Lyle on their first meeting this year...

A more significant gap in the field is provided by Bernhard Langer, since his place in the Ryder Cup team to play the United States in Florida in October may be jeopardised if he cannot recover his

Belle of the long ball

By Lewine Mair

Belle Robertson may have put extra pressure on herself by saying, at the start of the week, that the North Berwick links had been too short for a Scottish women's championship...

Exit Miss Mandlikova

From a Special Correspondent

With the French Open only five days away, Hana Mandlikova, former women's singles champion there, has been forced to withdraw from the German Open in West Berlin...

Mother-to-be qualifies

Sue Hedges, who is expecting her first baby in September, came safely through the qualifying rounds of the English women's championships at Hayling Island yesterday...

Miss Reggie, aged 17 and a fierce hitting right hander ranked 58 on the world computer, was no match for Miss Durie, the British No 1 seeded 11th who seemed likely to face the Czechoslovak in the third round of the German Open...

Award winners

Benson and Hedges Cup

Table listing award winners for Benson and Hedges Cup, including names like G. D. Gifford, R. J. Lamb, and others.

Second XI competition

ELAND: Yorkshire v Derbyshire, no play...

Table listing results for Second XI competition across various counties.

Table showing cricket scores for Hampshire vs Somerset, including batsmen like Dilley and bowlers like Underwood.

Table showing cricket scores for Kent vs Surrey, including batsmen like Dilley and bowlers like Underwood.

Benson and Hedges tables

Table showing Benson and Hedges Cup group standings for various counties.

MCC captaincy for Hampshire

John Hampshire, the former England batsman, will captain MCC against Oxford University at Lord's on May 25 to 27...

YACHTING Hungers stay alert for victory

All six classes enjoyed good conditions and close racing when Westmorland Bay was the venue for the National Westmorland Bay regatta...

ATHLETICS Consolidation the Hull watchword

By David Powell

The lesson has been learnt in Hull this month: never pour the champagne until it is time to drink it...

Ten years ago City of Hull were wondering whether their women were ever strong enough to compete in the Northern League after finishing last but one and spent three years regrouping their forces...

FOOTBALL Final league tables for 1982-83

Table showing final league tables for the 1982-83 season across First, Second, and Third Divisions.

ICE HOCKEY Islanders make it four in a row

Unjondale, New York (Reuter) - The New York Islanders swept to their fourth consecutive National League championship on Tuesday night by defeating the Edmonton Oilers 4-1 to take the best of seven Stanley Cup series 4-0...

The winner of the League (Milk) Cup next season will receive £54,000. George Holroyd, the director of the National Dairy Council which sponsors the competition, said: "When we agreed to the sponsorship, we made no stipulation regarding the distribution of the money, but we think this move will be of great benefit to everybody connected with the sponsorship..."

Udd Larek, the West German coach dismissed by Barcelona earlier this year, is favourite to become manager of Bayern Munich to negotiate contracts with clubs in western Europe...

More football, page 21

Exit Miss Mandlikova

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Udd Larek, the West German coach dismissed by Barcelona earlier this year, is favourite to become manager of Bayern Munich to negotiate contracts with clubs in western Europe...

Advertisement for Littlewoods PPA Dividends, featuring a large number '187616' and details about prize money and terms.

RACING: OAKS TRIAL AT GOODWOOD

Hardihostess holds the key

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent
After heavy overnight and early morning rain...



Dick Hern: relies on Myrtina.

Newbury last month, is preferred to Deutscherhof for the Raughmere maiden stakes...

TABLE TENNIS

Prean a surprise wild card entry

By a Special Correspondent
Carl Prean, aged 15 who led England to their first world championship...

RUGBY UNION



Holmes, who was Houdini reborn in the build-up to Irwin's try.

Powerful Auckland forwards bring Lions down to earth

From Don Cameron, Auckland
Campbell, who had earlier dropped a goal, converted this try and MacNeill thumped over a 50-metre penalty goal...

HOCKEY

Upsets for Southgate

By Sydney Friskin
On the eve of the European club championship at The Hague a touch of food poisoning has left at least seven members of the Southgate party...

Goodwood

Draw advantage: high numbers best
Tote: double 3.0, 4.0. Treble 2.30, 3.0 & 3.30 races

Table with race results for Goodwood, including 2.0 RAUGHMERE STAKES and 2.30 DAILY MIRROR HANDICAP.

2.0 RAUGHMERE STAKES (3-y-o maidens: £3,000; 1m) (16 runners)

Table with race results for 2.0 RAUGHMERE STAKES and 2.30 DAILY MIRROR HANDICAP.

4.30 BENGES STAKES (2-y-o selling: £1,275; 6f) (9)

Table with race results for 4.30 BENGES STAKES.

2.30 DAILY MIRROR HANDICAP (apprentices: £2,687; 5f) (18)

Table with race results for 2.30 DAILY MIRROR HANDICAP.

4.30 MORTAR HILL STAKES (handicap: £2,062; 1m 4f) (6)

Table with race results for 4.30 MORTAR HILL STAKES.

3.0 LUPE STAKES (3-y-o fillies: £3,036; 1m 4f) (9)

Table with race results for 3.0 LUPE STAKES.

2.0 WATERHEAD, 2.30 MERE PIP, 3.30 HARDIHOSTESS, 4.0 JAMES EDWARD, 4.30 TOPP.

Table with race results for 2.0 WATERHEAD, 2.30 MERE PIP, 3.30 HARDIHOSTESS, 4.0 JAMES EDWARD, 4.30 TOPP.

Goodwood selections

By Michael Phillips
2.0 Waterhead, 2.30 Mere Pip, 3.30 Hardihostess, 4.0 James Edward, 4.30 Topp.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Deutscherhof, 2.30 Master Crevier, 3.0 Hardihostess, 4.0 Ashley Rocket, 4.30 North Briton.

Law Report May 19 1983 Court of Appeal

Insured cannot cancel unfiled amendment slip

General Reinsurance Corporation v Forsakringsaktiebolaget Fennia Patria
LORD JUSTICE KERR, in a reserved judgment, said that the appeal was on one important issue which could be stated as follows: where insurance - or, in the present case, reinsurance - was placed by a broker on the London market by means of a "slip" which was taken round to various underwriters...

contracts resulting from the lines written on a partially completed slip. That result was said to flow either from the implication of a term, and when each line was written, which was necessary to give business efficacy to the resulting contract, or alternatively from a binding usage or practice in the insurance market. In the different situations listed under (a) to (g) above Mr Justice Staughton accepted that conclusion - either on the basis of custom or of an implied term, or both - in all cases other than (c). His conclusion in relation to (c) had not been challenged and it did not arise on the facts. However, there could not, in his Lordship's view, be any doubt about its correctness. His conclusion as to (d) - the custom of writing down if the slip was submitted to more than 100 per cent - was also accepted as a matter of binding custom, and again there could be no doubts as to its correctness. It was common ground before the judge that in relation to all the other situations his conclusion as to the existence of an option of rescission was strongly challenged on the appeal, with by reference to implications of law, as anyone agreed, was immediately binding on the underwriter. No doubt such situations would in practice be readily resolved by agreement, possibly subject to any "time on" or "time off" clause, which might be due, if and when requests for cancellation were made. But that was a long way from proof of a legal right by custom. A fortiori it was clear that there was no evidence whatever to suggest the existence of any such custom in relation to endorsement slips, let alone after the occurrence of a loss. The alternative basis on which an optional right to cancel was said to rest on an implication of law. However, given the conclusion that no custom to that effect had been established it would clearly be impossible to conclude that an unfettered option of cancellation arose by implication of law as a matter of necessary business efficacy. Any such implication would be unnecessary, since it was agreed on all sides that it was always open to a broker wishing to test the market without commitment to do so by circulating a "quotation slip". Moreover, in the case of endorsement slips which, depending on their terms, would entitle the insured or reinsured to cancel or to hold the underwriter to his line in the event of a claim which had no reasonable prospect of success, any such option would also be clearly unreasonable, since one party would be at the mercy of the other. For those reasons the appeal had to be allowed and the defendants' counterclaim for payment on the basis of the original unamended slip had to be dismissed. They had no right to require cancellation of the line written by Mr. Hollis on the endorsement slip. The declaration to the same effect claimed by General Reinsurance followed. Lord Justice Slade and Lord Justice Oliver delivered concurring judgments. Solicitors: Davies, Arnold & Cooper, Inc & Co.

Sales and Marketing Appointments

Garments and Textiles International Marketing
This is a key international business role with a subsidiary of a major British textiles group, the proprietor of several prestigious brand names. Group policy is significantly to expand overseas sales by means of joint ventures, licensing and franchising. This new appointment of Market Development Manager will be accountable to the Managing Director for identifying and exploiting opportunities in these three areas. The need is for an experienced and successful internationalist - probably a graduate aged 27 to 35 - with relevant joint venture licensing and franchising experience in the quality end of garments or fabrics. Salary probably £15,000-00 but unlikely to be a limiting factor. Car and other major group benefits including cost of relocation to the North West. Applications with full career details from men and women should be sent in confidence to A.W.B. Thomson, Selection Thomson Ltd., 115 Mount Street, London W1Y 5HD.

Wine and Food
Exhibition organisers require Sales Executives to work on major wine and food events in London. Attractive salary plus company car.

Residential Executive - Central London
Broseley Estates Ltd., one of Britain's largest Private Housebuilders require an experienced Residential specialist with good contacts for their new central London division. The applicant must be able to identify and process sites for new housing, flats and conversions. This is a senior appointment carrying a substantial 5 figure salary and commensurate fringe benefits. Please apply in writing enclosing a short resume of your career and track record to: The Managing Director, Broseley Estates Ltd., 67 Connaught St., London W2 2AE.

SALESMAN/WOMAN
Interesting & varied position with world famous jewellery shop opening shortly. Applicants should be under 35 years, well educated, smart appearance, hold a current driving licence & be keen to learn all aspects of the business. Excellent salary. Reply: The Advertiser, 153 New Bond St. London

Considering a change of career?
A HIGH INCOME: We will earn £12,000 in your first year with us if you meet basic terms. Our better candidates earn over £18,000. SECURITY: Working for part of £18 million financial services group, growth forecast of 25,000 employees and based in LONDON, LEEDS, LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER & BIRMINGHAM. If you are aged 22 and over, positive, hardworking and well spoken, ring: 01-222 9351, Ext. 28

General Appointments

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN ENGINEERING AND RELATED DISCIPLINES

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

Challenging opportunities for well-qualified graduates seeking to develop their careers in manufacturing industry are offered through the Teaching Company Scheme.

SALARY In the normal range for project engineers in the industry in question.

AGE Between 21-30.

QUALIFICATIONS Preferably first or good second class degree in engineering or the physical sciences, and preferably with at least one year's industrial experience.

These demanding posts should form the basis for accelerated career development, possibly within the partner company.

If you have the right experience and qualifications and wish to be considered, send your CV to: The Teaching Company Directorate (T) Science and Engineering Research Council

HORIZONS

The Times Guide to career training

The tide turns for alternatives

The energy industry is in a shambles: oil prices yo-yo; coal is beset by the problem of uneconomic pits; nuclear power is so controversial that many doubt its future; gas is preparing for the day when North Sea supplies are exhausted.

Edward Fennell, in the first of two articles, looks at job prospects in renewable energy

forms of renewable energy - wind, wave, tidal, solar, hot dry rock, aquifer, biofuels and hydro power. In addition there are also non-renewable alternatives to conventional fuels.

have a renewable programme that faces up to the challenge of the future. Several of the renewables are nearing or have entered the stage of commercial application, not only for the home market but also for exports.

Don't overlook the fringe

If the benefits are good, a lower base salary could be attractive says David Clutterbuck

The true cost of maintaining a professional employee or manager in London is more than two and a half times his salary, calculates a major British company.

This kind of benefit is relatively easy to value. Other common examples include: rail travel vouchers (taxable but well worth having) or interest-free loans to buy annual season tickets;

Building society and bank employees, for example, usually enjoy highly preferential mortgage terms. Computer companies often offer substantial discounts on microcomputers.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

requires a RESEARCHER

in the EUROPE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

The work includes investigating human rights abuses, preparing material on them and advising on initiatives to be taken by Amnesty International on relation to prisoners of conscience, trial procedures and the treatment of prisoners.

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For new world famous jewellery shop opening shortly. Applicants should be under 30 years of age & a non-smoker, educated, of smart appearance & hold a driving licence. Excellent salary. Reply: The Advertiser, 153 New Bond St. London.

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Art Gallery. Preferably aged 24+. Well presented, friendly, with good telephone manner and secretarial skills. Willing to work Saturdays. Salary Negotiable. Telephone 01-584 7386

Are you between jobs? Do you know the European parcels market well? Do you understand import-export procedures? Do you want a challenge?

If the answer to all these questions is yes - you may be the person that we are looking for. We are a large multi-national company and wish to commission a study into the European parcels market.

DESTINY BECKONS! An excellent opportunity exists within the electric atmosphere of a leading U.K. Brokerage to earn the kind of income most people only read about.

ADRIAN SICHEL on 01-408 0970

International Appointments

Opportunities

Leading National Company in Riyadh invites applicants for the following positions: Factory Manager. University degree in Mechanical, Electrical Engineering or Industrial Management. Long experience in factory management and good command of English and Arabic language are essential.

Opportunities

DENTAL ESTIMATES BOARD DENTAL ADVISER

Applications are invited from registered dental surgeons to fill a full-time, permanent, salaried position as DENTAL ESTIMATES BOARD for dental treatment under the NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE.

PART-TIME INTERVIEWERS

Over 21, required at Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham and East Midlands. Interviews between July and December. 1-3 shifts a week. £3 per hour. Apply to own handwriting advice details of age, experience, family commitments, holiday dates, qualifications, transport and language spoken to:

See Bro-Cotton, Civil Aviation Authority, Personnel Room 7416 CAA House, 45-59 Kingsway, London WC2B 6TE.

THE ROYAL ASSOCIATION for Disability and Rehabilitation has a vacancy for Publications Officer.

SOLICITOR required to manage office for at least one year. Must have 5 years experience and be interested in criminal litigation and conveyancing. The position is full-time. Please telephone 049 9512.

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Working as an interviewer with the country's leading specialist employment agency group offers an excellent opportunity to develop your own business. We are now recruiting for a number of self-motivated individuals who will be dealing with all levels of economy staff. Successful candidates will receive a comprehensive training programme.

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for details please ring 01-278 9161/5

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35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH. Tel: 01 588 3588 or 01-588 3576. Telex No. 887374

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CENTRAL! £11,000-£12,500

A PROGRESSIVE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE WITH CONTINUING AND SIGNIFICANT GROWTH PROSPECTS. The increasing demands of this busy and successful partnership have created this new vacancy for which we seek candidates, aged 45-55, offering a high standard of education and proven management ability in the office services and personnel fields.

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Of high calibre required by leading brand distributor/agents for a wide range of goods for sale in the home and export markets. Successful applicant will have to be highly motivated and have the ability to develop brand confidence in others. The products concerned are highly desirable in a ready market and are allied to a brand name which is virtually a household word.

Banking & Accountancy Appointments

ACCOUNTANT FOR SAUDI ARABIA

A large and major corporation in Saudi Arabia is looking for a high calibre accountant to work in Saudi Arabia under contract for two years renewable with mutual agreement. The person must be a fellow of the institute of chartered accountants in England with experience in industry. Knowledge with computers essential. Accommodation and car supplied, also a comprehensive medical insurance. Holidays are two times a year to a total of six weeks per annum. Salary is negotiable after interview average is £24,000 p.a. Please apply with all C.V. to: Box No. 0120 H The Times

General Appointments

INFORMATION SYSTEM

We are a City firm of solicitors with a Tax Department dealing primarily with corporate and commercial tax matters.

We wish to appoint a person to be responsible for reviewing and administering the Tax Department's information system.

The Tax Department's information system (which comprises information gathered through the Department's work, from Revenue statements, articles, etc.) has been built up over a number of years. The system is now maintained on computer in a specially designed programme in order to assist retrieval of the material.

Applicants should have a legal or accountancy background with specialist knowledge of technical corporate and commercial tax matters. Experience in librarianship, indexing or academic research would be an advantage. Applicants should be capable of analysing, indexing and cross-referencing a wide variety of written material with a technical tax content. Training will be given for those with no knowledge of computers.

In addition the appropriate applicant might also be asked to research and prepare technical papers on taxation topics.

The nature of the assignment would not necessarily involve full time attendance at the office or regular office hours.

Please reply, enclosing a curriculum vitae, which will be treated in complete confidence to: A.E. Sadler,

CLIFFORD TURNER

BLACKFRIARS HOUSE, 19 NEW-BRIDGE STREET LONDON E.C.4.

FASHION BUYER

Simpsons (Piccadilly) Ltd are looking for a Fashion Buyer to join the Womens Merchandise Team. The vacancy will interest candidates (age 25/35 years) looking for a career move, who will have experience in a top quality retail environment with a special emphasis on exclusive fashion merchandise for women.

Written applications including details of age, education and experience will be treated in confidence and should be sent to:

THE PERSONNEL EXECUTIVE SIMPSON (PICCADILLY) LTD 203 PICCADILLY LONDON W1A 2AF

British Museum

Oriental Antiquities Research Assistant

... to assist with duties related to all aspects of the collections from the Islamic world, the Indian sub-continent and South-East Asia, with special emphasis on the Islamic archaeological material. Work includes: documenting the collections; dealing with public enquiries; bibliography; library and photographic archive work; organising temporary exhibitions; assisting in the preparation of publications; giving public lectures.

Candidates should normally have a degree in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Sanskrit or another language of one of the areas concerned and should preferably also have qualifications, experience or interest in the material culture of the Islamic world, the sub-continent of India or South-East Asia.

SALARY (under review): As Curator Grade E (0845-£10975 or Curator Grade F (£6740-£8920). Level of appointment and starting salary according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 15 June 1983) write to Civil Service Commission, Alconoe Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 9A, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G127382.

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Theological competence with particular interest in issues of Faith and Order. Ready to work with those who express their faith in differing ways. Able to encourage staff members with responsibility for evangelism, ecumenism, local ecumenical councils and projects and youth concerns. The person appointed will be responsible for the effective running of the Division and prepare an annual report for the Assembly. Candidates must be members in good standing of a member church on the BCC.

Salary £10,475. Job description and application form available from: Rev. Basil Amey, 2, Eaton Gate, London, SW1W 9BL. Tel: 01-730 9611. Closing date for applications: Wednesday 8th June 1983.

MEMORIAL SERVICES
NORTON - A memorial service for the late Mrs. M. NORTON...

IN MEMORIAM
LAWRENCE, T. E. - Died 15th April 1983...

FORTECOMING EVENTS
DERBY DAY
Unusual opportunity to join private party on open top...

BIRTHS
BROWNE - On May 17th at Westminster...

DEATHS
ADRIAN - On May 17th at Hill House...

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
SPRING BANK HOLIDAY
AND MOST OTHER DATES IN MAY AND JUNE

MAY HOLIDAY BARGAINS
Greek Cruise/Cruise 18. 20. 22/9

WINDSURFERS AND SAILORS AHOY
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MAY HOLIDAY BARGAINS
CORFU OR ZANIE MAY BREAKS
A one week holiday from £148 per person...

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
SPRING BANK HOLIDAY AND MOST OTHER DATES...

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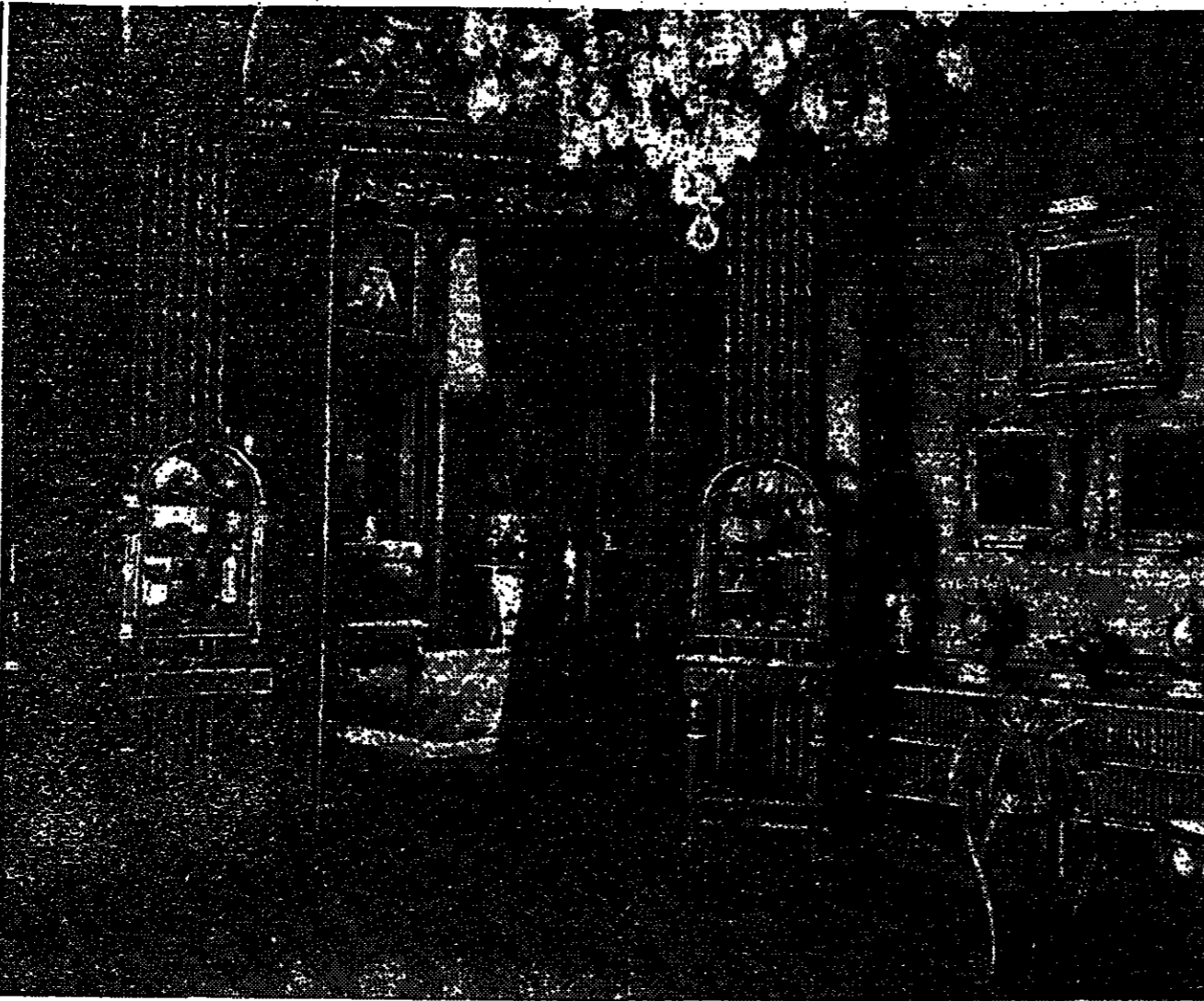
FUNERALS
The funeral service for Mrs. M. NORTON...

MEMORIAL SERVICES
NORTON - A memorial service for the late Mrs. M. NORTON...

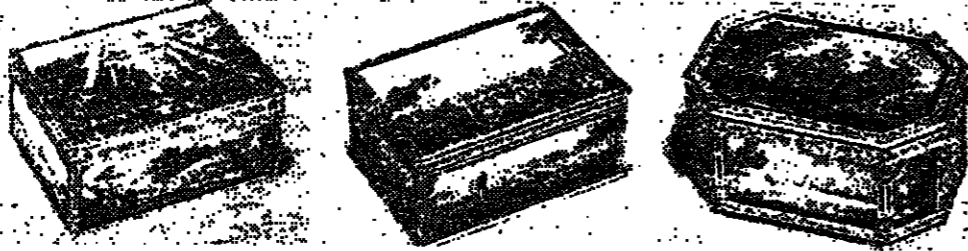
Tory pledge of union and council reform

Continued from page 1 - defence, employment and prosperity - with the defence of Britain's "traditional liberties and distinctive way of life" as the most vital decision for the voters.

Other specific proposals include legislation to deal with violent and obscene video cassettes and reform of the divorce laws, with particular reference to financial arrangements, as recommended by the Law Commission in 1981.



Superb furniture and rare woods: The tower drawing room at Waddesdon.



Three of the stolen gold snuff-boxes, the first two by Van Blarenbergh.

Disposal headache for thieves

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent The thieves who struck at Waddesdon Manor, near Aylesbury, are likely to have the greatest difficulty in finding buyers for the stolen works of art, it is their intention.

where the pieces come from. They are just too famous to sell overtly in Britain or any other country. In so specialized a field, French, German or American dealers would be as familiar with the collection.

The pieces could be broken up and melted down to obtain the constituent jewels and gold, but only a tiny fraction of the true value would be realized.

Lone thief takes art treasures

Continued from page 1

cludes Sevres vases, paintings, carpets and furniture but the burglar made straight for the cabinets with their easily portable contents.

Damascus rebuffs American mission

Continued from page 1

Israel which Syria regards as equally submissive towards Israel and the United States - it seems increasingly unlikely that the Syrians will consider a withdrawal of their army from Lebanon.

When Mr Shultz came here at the end of his recent visit to the Middle East, he spent three hours with President Assad, at least one hour of which, it transpires, was spent listening to the Syrian leader's explanation of the history of the Arab world.

According to an English-speaking photographer who was present when they met Mr Shultz turned to President Assad with the words: "Your newspapers are being very unkind to Mr Habib. We think he's pretty good at his job of peacemaking."

President Assad snapped back: "We have different ideas about peacemaking." Perhaps the Americans should have taken the point.

Syria's rejection of the new agreement has already had its effect in Libya - perhaps Syria's closest Arab ally - where the Government yesterday recalled its embassy staff from Beirut.

The Lebanese retaliated by recalling their ambassador to Libya. The Libyans are asking the Arab League to apply the same sanctions against Lebanon as it took against Egypt after the Camp David treaty, but most Arab nations have either expressed cautious support or remained silent.

Syria is exaggerating the degree of Arab support: it is being given, and there are a few signs that the Government here is pausing for thought after its initial refusal to withdraw its troops from Lebanon.

Frank Johnson's campaign trail Confidence, speech - both unstoppable

Conservative Manifesto Day at last. We shall never forget it. Not the manifesto. The day.

Hundreds of us were packed into a relatively small room at Conservative Central Office. Space ran out very early. In the corridor outside, other of our profession clamoured for admittance. They were the lucky ones. Inside, a combination of the people, the television lights, and Mrs Thatcher talking non-stop at you for 20 minutes in a confined space meant that conditions rapidly deteriorated.

The Prime Minister arrived through the throng accompanied by Mr Cecil Parkinson, Mr William Whitelaw, Mr Francis Pym, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr Norman Tebbit, Mr Michael Heseltine, Mr Tom King and Mr Dennis Thatcher.

There was also Mr Ian Gow, her parliamentary private secretary. He is her eminence grise except that he is bald. Mr Parkinson, Mr Whitelaw, Mr Pym, Sir Geoffrey, Mr Heseltine and Mr King positioned themselves around her on the platform. Mr Gow gripped away to one side.

Mr Thatcher took up the position of real influence, out of sight at the back of the hall. He fought a masterly campaign in 1979. When, on the first day of that contest, the then Leader of the Opposition cuddled a calf in a field in Norfolk, he was responsible for the best phrase to emerge from the Thatcher family during that campaign. ("If we're not careful, we'll have a dead calf on our hands.")

Now the only thing that stood between him and a second term in Downing Street was his wife. She had always been just that little bit too controversial for the wife of a public figure such as himself. But yesterday she was so far as we know, ahead still in every poll of which we had knowledge. Her confidence was unstoppable, as indeed was her conversation. All the indications were that her husband was fighting another winning campaign.

Mrs Thatcher's torrential opening, a 20-minute address to us explaining the manifesto, took in all topics at present known in British politics. She also promised to outlaw video nasties. A Labour government would include within this legislation party political broadcasts by Mr Tebbit.

But Mr Tebbit was by far the colleague most in favour with Mrs Thatcher yesterday and the only one who could come close to her inspirational tone.

Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, elected not to make a statement at this stage, but to go for trial in the next Parliament. "Can we have your questions?" Mrs Thatcher eventually demanded. It turned out that Mr Whitelaw, Sir Geoffrey, Mr Pym, Mr Tebbit, Mr Heseltine, Mr King and Mr Parkinson did not have any questions. This could explain how the Cabinet arrives at the Government's policies.

But it urged that we had misunderstood her. We were the ones who were supposed to ask the questions. Sir Robin Day inquired of an omission in the manifesto: any reference to the Trident weapon. Mr Heseltine replied that there was a reference to the deterrent, though not to Trident. "I'm very grateful to you," Mrs Thatcher said. She nodded in the direction of Sir Robin. "Have you got any more?"

Asked about the Falklands, Mr Pym implied that there could be negotiations if Argentina accepted an end to the conflict. "On commercial links," he added. Mrs Thatcher said quite clearly on commercial links. "Actually Mr Pym had not said it quite clearly at all.

Mr Pym, whose only intervention this was, drew his head back into those rather tortoise-like shoulders of his. Someone asked if there would be a free vote on hanging in the next Parliament. She said yes. Suddenly, Mr Whitelaw stirred his large, much-loved, round features. "Absolutely, and there are so many opportunities for doing it, I'm sure it will be done," he said. This could have referred to hanging or voting. Someone else asked about the fall in industrial production. Sir Geoffrey began to answer. The questioner started something about the Chancellor's figures being to do with oil. "Leaving aside oil," said the Chancellor, and gently finished his answer. "Why leave out oil?" crashed in the Prime Minister. "It is a success for technology and for private enterprise."

"Hear, hear," muttered at the back of the room, old oil man Mr Thatcher, who had dealt with many a blow out or gusher in his time.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements The Queen, accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales and Princess Anne, presides at the Household Cavalry Horse Guards Parade, 11.

New exhibitions

Echings and other intaglio techniques, Glasgow Art Gallery, Kelvingrove; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5. (from today until June 19).

Exhibitions in progress

Six Attitudes: Paintings by Susan Boylin, Stuart Cox, Andrew Eden, Colin Garden, Bill Mitchell and Charlotte Moore, City Museum and Art Gallery, Princesgate, Peterborough; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 (until June 4).

Train delays

British Rail reports that engineering work on the East Coast line will delay some trains today. Services between Newcastle and Edinburgh between 8 am and 5 pm will be diverted via Carlisle, adding one hour to the journey.

Roads

London and South-east: Ceremony at Horse Guards Parade, central London; several roads closed from 3.30 pm until 1 pm; severe congestion in Westminster, Victoria and St James. M20: Carriageway closures between junctions 5 and 7, north of Maidstone. A272: Closed to traffic between Petersfield, Basingstoke and A32 from 9 am; diversion.

Weather forecast

A depression centred over Wales will drift slowly E. 6 am to midnight London, East Angles, SE, Central S, E and SW England, E Midlands, Channel Isles, moderate or heavy, showers; heavy at times, perhaps thundery; wind SW, moderate; max 14 to 16C (57 to 61F).

High tides

Table with columns for location, AM, HT, PM, BT. Locations include London Bridge, Avonmouth, Cardiff, Devonport, etc.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,133

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-28 and some letters filled in.

- ACROSS 1 Cleansing of Mrs Centivre's Simon? (12). 9 Change, and please walk by the sea? (9). 10 I had a little house here in America? (5).

Poster competition

The Minority Rights Group, together with other organizations, is sponsoring a competition to produce equal rights and opportunities in Britain.

The pound

Table with columns for Bank, Buys, Sells. Includes Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, etc.

Anniversaries

Births: Johann Fichte, philosopher, Rammensau, Germany, 1762; Daniel Defoe, novelist, Rochester, Kent, 1660; etc.

Lighting-up time

Table with columns for location, Sun rise, Sun set. Includes London, Bristol, Cardiff, etc.

Around Britain

Table with columns for location, Sun rise, Sun set. Includes Glasgow, Edinburgh, Belfast, etc.

The papers

The Conservative election manifesto has all the freshness and originality of a well-used piece of carbon paper.

Yesterday

Table with columns for location, High, Low, Wind, Rain. Includes London, Bristol, Cardiff, etc.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday's highest: 19.5C at Penryn, Cornwall. Lowest: 10.5C at Penryn, Cornwall.

Abroad

Table with columns for location, C, F, W, M, S, D. Includes Alcala, Alcala, Alcala, etc.

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Continuation of the crossword puzzle grid and clues.

Solution of Puzzle No 16,132

Solution grid for puzzle No 16,132 with letters filled in.

Births

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